The Hongkong Telegraph.

MAIL SUPPLEMENT.

(ESTABLISHED 1881.)

NEW SERIES No. 5034 | 光緒三十一年十一月十七日 | SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1905. | 大拜禮 | 第三廿月二十英港香 | $13 PER ANNUM. SINGLE COPY, 25 CENTS.

CONTENTS.

Births, Marriages and Deaths.
Leading Articles:—
The P. & O. in the East.
Shanghai in Eruption.
Who was to Blame?
Partnership Registration.
A Public Danger.
Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C.
An Unexploited Field.
Mr. Pollock's Programme.
Small-pox in Canton.
Telegrams:—
Shanghai in Arms.
Mob Law.
The Lien-chau Massacre.
Shanghai Emeute.
The Shanghai Riot.
An Alarmist Telegram.
Partnership Registration.
Shanghai Quiet.
Meetings:—
The China Traders' Insurance Co., Ld.
Union Insurance Society of Canton, Ld.
Legal Intelligence:—
Criminal Sessions.
Suit for Rent.
Police.
A Question of Jurisdiction.
Correspondence:—
The Leper's Fund.
Robinson Piano Co. v. H. Price.
Wanchai Water Supply.
Miscellaneous Articles and Reports:—
Kowloon-Canton.
The L. C. Election.
Forthcoming Races.
Turf Topics.
Hongkong Medical College.
The China United Services Rifle Association.
Activity at the Docks.
Wanchai Water Supply.
Hongkong Opticians.
Masonic.
British Naval Miracles.
Departures for England.
Lusitano Club.
Marine Court.
The Zorilla Company.
The Coast Ports.
Bazaar of Toys.
Hongkong Volunteer Reserve Association.
Macao Notes.
Canton Notes.
Persecuting the Christians.
The Lien-chau Tragedy.
The Outbreak at the Mixed Court.
Mob Law.
Anti-Foreign Feeling.
The Ewo Cotton Co.
Accident to the s.s. *Kaifong*.
To Fortify Manila.
The Floating Mine Danger.
The Closing of the Gates.
Strike at Tanjong Pagar.
Hongkong Junks.
Brunei.
Sir Currimbhoy Ebrahim.
China and the United States.
Commercial:—
Weekly Share Report.
Freight Market.
Exchange.
Opium.
Local and General.

BIRTHS.

On the 11th December, at Shanghai, the wife of HERBERT JAMES ANDREWS, of a daughter (still born).

On the 13th December, at Shanghai, the wife of ARNOLD LAMBERT, of a daughter.

To Captain and Mrs. HUGH MACKINNON, Shanghai, on 13th December, a son.

On the 14th December, at Woosung, the wife of Dr. ROBERT H. COX, of a daughter.

On the 16th December, at Shanghai, the wife of THEO RUFF, of a son.

Dec. 18th—At the Peak, the wife of L. G. BIRD, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

On the 12th December, at Shanghai, NILS ERIC AMELON MOLLER to ISABEL ELISABETH BLECHYNDEN.

On the 14th December, at Shanghai, J. WM. MENNELL to LUCIE M. EDWARDS.

DEATHS.

On the 10th December, at Ningpo, ALBERT KLIENE, Tide Surveyor and Harbour Master, Imperial Maritime Customs. Age 61 years.

On the 14th December at Newchwang, WILLIAM JOHN CLARK, the beloved infant son of Mr. and Mrs. A. O. Wilson, aged 6 months, and 6 days.

The Hongkong Telegraph

MAIL SUPPLEMENT,

ISSUED GRATIS TO SUBSCRIBERS.

THE P. & O. IN THE EAST.

(16th December.)

"Wake up, Britain," was the watchword which the Prince of Wales gave to the merchants of the Mother Country in the course of a speech at a banquet which was given on the occasion of the return of Their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales from their trip to the Colonies some years ago. The effect of that exhortation has been seen in the increased trade returns of Great Britain during the past year. But one of the best examples of the energy inspired by the Prince of Wales's call is that furnished by the P. & O. Steam Navigation Company. It was once a subject of everyday remark that while their rivals in the Far Eastern carrying trade, the Norddeutscher Lloyd, Hamburg-Amerika Linie, the British India and the Messageries Maritimes Companies were exerting themselves to the utmost to capture that trade which had for so long belonged almost exclusively to the British corporation, the P. & O. were content to plod along in the same old tortoise fashion, keeping antiquated boats on the run from Colombo and crowding passengers into spaces which were no better than the quarters provided in the historical East Indiamen. Naturally when the German lines came into competition with the British Company, bringing with them fast up-to-date vessels, first-class accommodation, and a degree of readiness to oblige which was not always found in the P. and O. boats, passengers from Great Britain to the East ignored the vessels flying their national flag and travelled by foreign vessels. The cry of "Wake up, Britain" echoed throughout the land, and the P. and O. Company determined to maintain that prestige which they had gained in the past, and to vie with their competitors, if not to surpass them, in the class of vessels they sent to the Far East, in the sumptuousness of the accommodation provided, and in all those minor details which go to make life on shipboard a pleasant dream. We have seen the gradual improvement which this forward, and we might almost say patriotic, policy has effected. Leviathans were placed on the Australian run, but passengers to the Far East had to change at Colombo into small, old-fashioned vessels, whose tonnage was no doubt considerable, but whose appointments were behind the times. A passenger would travel from London to Colombo on a modern ten thousand tonner, replete in every respect with the most modern conveniences; great, roomy vessels which resembled floating hotels more than ordinary steamers. When they changed into what was called "an old tub" the difference was too obvious to escape comment. They felt "cabined, cribbed, confined," after the spacious freedom they had enjoyed on the larger vessel, and starting with the idea that they must necessarily be uncomfortable they growled and grumbled at everything on board. That was not a pleasant state of things either for the passengers or the officers, and it was not profitable from the Company's point of view. The arrival of the *Delta* at Hongkong yesterday was an earnest that the P. and O. Company are not inclined to rest under the imputation of lagging in the rear, while others, their trade competitors, are rushing to the front. The *Delta* is one of the most modern of the Company's craft, a vessel of over 8,000 tons, fitted up in a manner which must meet the requirements of the most fastidious and finical of travellers. After all, the average Britisher has a soft spot in his heart for the P. and O. Company. From the time he was able to read, he has heard of the P. and O., and no doubt wondered vaguely whether it was an institution or a brand of something he had not yet seen. The realisation that the P. and O. Company was practically a department of the State, that it was the pioneer British steamship line to the East, was not always accompanied by satisfaction; sometimes disillusion awaited him at Colombo, if he was bound farther eastward, and it being one of the great privileges of the Britisher to grumble, he did so to his heart's content, until he began nearly to believe that all the imprecations he used were justified. Of course that was not so, but the recreation afforded him infinite pleasure, and it did no harm until alien lines appeared on the scene. The *Delta* removes one of the last of his grievances. It is a credit to the P. and O. Company and to the flag under which it sails. There is no need to enumerate the good points of the *Delta*. Everybody in Hongkong has travelled; we are all travelling every day. Where people at home would speak of a day's journey with something like awe and respect, the ordinary individual in Hongkong trips away on a week's voyage with the airy lightness of a suburban resident. Consequently we are generally acquainted with all the best features that may be expected on board ship; we have become epicures in discrimination. It will be sufficient, therefore, to say that the *Delta* has all those features calculated to please, and a few others. Thus begins the revolution in the type of vessels which will be engaged by the P. and O. Company to run to the Far East. We have suggested that the P. and O. Company—especially under the chairmanship of Sir Thomas Sutherland—has come to be regarded as a British institution. The reason for that is not far to seek. The Company have at the present time 59 vessels afloat and four on the stocks; the tonnage ranges from 10,512 tons in the case of the *Macedonia* to 1,728 tons in the case of those deerhounds the *Isis* and *Osiris*. The four vessels which are being built are to be of 6,700 tons each. The tugs, tenders, and launches along total 10,000 tons and the total tonnage commanded by the Company is 411,344 tons. The P. & O. Company is thus well entitled to be described as one of the premier steamship lines in the world, particularly in the passenger trade. It must afford every subject of Great Britain the liveliest satisfaction to see his country keeping in the van, in shipping as well as in trade, and much of that enthusiasm to stand in the forefront is traceable to the stirring exordium of the Prince of Wales, "Wake up, Britain."

SHANGHAI IN ERUPTION.

(18th December.)

The disquieting news which we publish to-day from our Shanghai correspondent was not altogether unexpected. For a considerable time the Chinese authorities in the Northern Settlement have been overtly seeking to exercise undisputed and supreme authority over their nationals tried before the Mixed Court. In other words, they have endeavoured to reduce the status of the Foreign Assessors to that of mere spectators, thereby discrediting the Foreign official in the eyes of the natives. Mr. Kuan, the Chinese Magistrate at the Mixed Court, was the tool selected to effect this humiliation and to acquire that power over Chinese life and property within the Foreign Concessions, which would eventually lead to the autocracy of the Chinese Magistrate in the Mixed Court. This was in direct opposition to the treaty rights and against the spirit of the rules which allowed an Assessor to sit on the bench as adviser. It is inconceivable that a British official could tamely submit to have his country's rights openly disregarded and his own claims to be heard repudiated. The ambition of the Chinese authorities to rule the Mixed Court after their own fashion and according to their native practices was not to be tolerated for a moment. Frequently the Chinese Magistrate and the British Assessor have come into conflict, but until recently the divergences of opinion, to put it no higher, have been smoothed over. At last the Magistrate's superiors seem to have lost patience; Mr. Kuan was urged, perhaps commanded, to assert himself, and he did so when Mr. Twyman was sitting as Assessor. It was a comparatively trivial matter that brought things to a crisis. Should a batch of girls who were said to have been abducted—although it now seems clear that they were the slaves of a Chinese lady who was charged as the abductor—be sent to the Door of Hope or the cells in the women's ward of the common gaol? These cells have apparently a notorious reputation, and the British Assessor humanely proposed that the girls be kept in the Door of Hope, a philanthropic institution corresponding no doubt to the Po Leung Kuk in Hongkong. Then the fat was in the fire. The Magistrate would brook no interference with his orders; Mr. Twyman was equally obstinate. The Police, who were called in, obeyed the orders of Mr. Twyman and disregarded the emphasised commands of the Chinese Magistrate. There was a *fracas*, out of which the police emerged triumphant; the girls were lodged in the Door of Hope. The thwarted Magistrate—doubly resentful because he had personally suffered an ignominious defeat in the face of his subordinates, and had muddled the injunctions of his superiors—communicated with the Taotai, a *pro forma* proceeding, we have no doubt. The object was to prove that Mr. Twyman was in the wrong, but there cannot be the slightest question that the dispute was a premeditated attack on the foreign rights in the Settlement. In Mr. Twyman the Chinese officials found an Assessor who, while acting constitutionally, would not budge a single step from the undoubted rights pertaining to his office and to the Foreign Settlements. This is not an affair which solely concerns the British community in Shanghai. If the Chinese Magistrate and those behind him had their way, the rights and privileges—obtained under treaties, to safeguard the dispensation of justice where Chinese subjects residing in the Foreign Settlements were concerned—would have been swept away in a whirlwind. Fortunately the situation was realised by the British authorities at Shanghai, and not only were they prepared to uphold Mr. Twyman by diplomatic measures, but it is now shown that they were determined to enforce their rights at the point of the bayonet.

The Taotai seems to have received the Chinese Magistrate's Bowdlerised version of what occurred and a strong remonstrance from the British authorities almost simultaneously. Negotiations were instituted, but apparently no *modus vivendi* has been found. It was impossible that the parties could arrive at any agreement so long as the Chinese Magistrate, instigated by his superiors, maintained his irreconcilable attitude. Meanwhile, the high officials were busy with an underhand movement, inflaming the passions of the people, fanning their native antipathies against the foreign community in general, and the British in particular, with the *denouement* seems at hand. Everybody knows how rumour, many-tongued, spreads through the bazaars of the East. The hint that a riot was impending reached the ears of the British authorities who took prompt measures to protect the British Concession and, if necessary, the entire foreign population. By great good fortune the cruisers *Bonaventure* and *Astræa* are at Shanghai at present. Men-of-war's men have been landed, ammunition, ambulances, field guns and stores placed at the disposal of those in charge of the operations on shore, and the Volunteers are patrolling the streets. We may rest perfectly assured that the foreign population of Shanghai is safe against the attacks of any number of Chinese malignants. The first telegram recording the news of the unrest prevailing in Shanghai was received at the office of the *Hongkong Telegraph*, in a message which had been despatched at 10.45 a.m. At 11.20 a.m., according to the telegram which Mr. Lenzmann, of Carlowitz & Co., kindly placed at our disposal, the riots had broken out but "there was nothing to fear." Then came the telegram received by Mr. E. S. Joseph, which took a more serious view of the situation. It stated that business is at a standstill. "Revolution has broken out!" The *telegram* was in code, so for "revolution" we may read "riot." The latest news that foreigners have been attacked and wounded, that 20 Chinese have been shot, and that the women and children have been collected and are under guard at the Country Club is set off by the statement that the rabble is unorganised and without weapons. There is only this to be remembered that the authorities may secretly support but cannot outwardly encourage the emeute; they are bound indeed to repress it with all their might, and some few poor misguided mortals will suffer for the sins of their superiors. Whatever happens Great Britain will never allow her rights to be trampled upon by a lot of undisciplined rowdies incited to riot by the representatives of the officials. Britain and the foreign community at Shanghai are well able to defend their cause and the outcome is not at all doubtful. Possibly this outbreak is the best thing that could have happened. The punishment which must follow will curb the insensate desires of the Chinese officials, and help them to realise that they cannot ride roughshod over the rights and privileges solemnly conferred on the foreign communities of Shanghai.

WHO WAS TO BLAME?

(19th December.)

We have received, under cover, a copy of the English page published in connection with the *S. C. Daily Journal* of Shanghai, giving the Chinese version of the events which led to the rupture between the British Assessor at the Mixed Court and the Chinese Magistrate, Mr. Kuan, and culminated in the riots reported yesterday. So far it has been the English statement of the case which has been circulated, and in fairness to the other side some attention might be given their version. According to the Chinese, the Municipal Council, through the British Assessor, has been sedulously endeavouring to encroach more and more on the rights of the Magistrate (either by curtailing his power over the prisoners or interfering in cases where both the plaintiff and defendant were Chinese). As we have seen, that is precisely the allegation put forward by the British Assessor—that the Chinese Magistrate was endeavouring to encroach on the rights of the former. "The result is," the *Journal* proceeds, "that the Assessor has usurped the place of the Magistrate, while the Magistrate does not even enjoy the lawful power of an Assessor." These are assertions, so far, without illustrations. "So long as the Magistrate was a man caring only for the loaves and fishes of his post, without standing up for his rights and the rights of his country, the Assessor and the Police managed the affairs of the Mixed Court pretty much in their own arbitrary way." Mr. Kuan Chun, the present Magistrate, is described as an intelligent and well-educated man, while his assistant, Mr. King, has resided in London and mingled in foreign circles. They would not tolerate the arrogance of the Assessor or the assumptions of the Municipal Council, and the *fracas* at the Mixed Court was "but the conflagration, the inflammable materials of which had long been smouldering." The question over which the squabble arose seems to have been a bone of contention between the Chinese officials and the foreign Assessors for some considerable time. The Assessors demanded that Chinese women and girls should not be imprisoned in the Chinese cells of the Court on account of their filthy condition; the officials erected special quarters for females and we are told that the German, American and Italian Assessors expressed their satisfaction with the new accommodation. Not so the Municipal Council, who insisted that Chinese female prisoners should be sent to the Municipal Gaol. The *Journal* hints that the Municipal Gaol is not all that it should be, that no Chinese, sentenced to a term of imprisonment exceeding one year, ever survives, and that Chinese women abhor the place. The story of the disturbance in the Mixed Court on the 4th inst. is recited. We have had it *ad nauseam*, and we will assume that there was a row in which the police acted as they usually do in such circumstances, by clubbing everybody into order. The question of the Door of Hope and all the rest of it may be laid aside, although it may be noticed that the Chinese are great supporters of that institution. Indeed, they say the question about the Door of Hope has been dragged in as a sort of red herring over the trail. The real question is this—was the disturbance premeditated? and if so, by whom? The supporters of the British Assessor emphatically declare that it was premeditated by the Chinese Magistrate, who was impelled by his superiors. The *Journal*, voicing the Chinese side, says: "That the outbreak was premeditated by the Chinese is without foundation, proved by the fact that only some ten runners were present; the gates were closed and locked by order of the Magistrates to prevent the crowd of indignant and infuriated Chinese outside from gaining access to the Court room." The attack is carried into the enemy's camp when the Chinese assert that the police went to Court that morning looking for trouble. There were sixty present when the Court opened, and a telephone message brought a large reinforcement, armed with rifles, within a few seconds. How are we to find the truth between these conflicting statements? The Chinese press without exception condemns the "arbitrary decision" of the British Assessor. On the other hand, the English newspapers in Shanghai are by no means unanimous in fixing the responsibility for the outbreak. Nor are the members of the Foreign Settlements in agreement. A "Foreign Resident" in a letter to the *N. C. Daily News* speaks of the Council "overriding the rights of the Chinese," and says—"The Chinese are coming to the point of standing up for their rights as they understand them, even if it gives us foreigners a shock." The fact seems to be that the question whether the women should be detained in the Court precincts or lodged in the Municipal Gaol was a mere pretext for the disturbance that occurred. There is something behind all this which has yet to be told. People don't riot and burn and kill because some women are imprisoned in one place instead of another. A Chinese Magistrate and a British Assessor do not fly at each other's throats over a paltry matter of discipline. Quite true, this question of the imprisonment of women has been on the tapis since May or June last. Granting that the native population is not roused to fury over a matter which is largely academic. Then how have the susceptibilities of the natives been offended? Did they object to see their Chinese Magistrate flouted, if he were flouted, and institute a vendetta against his detractors, ending in a general tumult which must have serious effects no matter how soon it is suppressed? Or rather, was this the spark which set the smouldering embers alight, and, if so, what did the embers consist of? It must be remembered that all accounts are agreed that the rioters were unarmed and unorganised. That does not seem to indicate that the officials had a hand in the rising, although, of course, there are more ways of killing a cat than by hanging it. The impression is left on the mind of the onlooker that there is something below all this turmoil about women's quarters in gaol. Had Mr. Twyman, by any action unrevealed, become a *persona non grata* with the Chinese? There are half a dozen ways of accomplishing one's object; did Mr. Twyman adopt the most conciliatory or was he needlessly rough and dogmatic? Taotai Yuan speaks of the "disgraceful trampling upon our rights." He declares that he will do his utmost "to erase the shame inflicted on the Chinese Government." He commends the Magistrate for "maintaining against all odds the sovereign rights of China," and applauds his supporters for their "exhibition of public spirit and of loyalty to country." This is the language of a patriot who dares all for his country; not the speech of an official who sees a way out of a difficulty by diplomatic methods. We thoroughly believe that all the truth of this affair has not been told; there are wheels within wheels, for sober men seldom give rein to their passions so plainly over a trivial matter that the mob is incensed to riot. The British and foreign communities may be right; the Chinese may be right, but the Chinese have put themselves out of court by the behaviour of the rabble. For the emeute which occurred the Chinese authorities must be held responsible, and in the aftermath of the rising it is to be feared that the real original cause of the trouble will be forgotten. It has been a mismanaged business from beginning to end; there does not seem to be much credit attaching to anybody for yesterday's proceedings. But we would certainly like to get an inkling of the actual facts which culminated in the riot.

PARTNERSHIP REGISTRATION.

(20th December.)

The mercantile community of Singapore as represented by the Chamber of Commerce has rejected the proposed Registration of Partnerships enactment by a majority of thirteen—according to our special telegram to-day. On the other hand Penang has pronounced in favour of the Bill through its Chamber of Commerce. There seems to be the greatest diversity of opinion on the merits of the Bill. It does not appear that any member of either Chamber has had the hardihood to suggest that the Bill is unnecessary. The opponents to the draft measure admit that it might prove beneficial to trade interests and to the maintenance of a high standard of morality in business, but they object to the terms of this Bill. They simply adopt the *non possumus* attitude, which is so unsatisfactory to all concerned and especially irritating to those who are seeking a way out of the difficulties which beset those who see endless trouble in the Bill. Although the Penang Chamber has by a large majority—the minority consisted of three members—expressed their approval, not of the Bill as it stands but of the attempt to frame a measure which will meet the requirements of merchants without disturbing trade, we are now told that there is a considerable proportion of the Chinese merchants in Penang who foresee trouble if the Bill is passed. The whole aim and end of the Bill is to defeat the machinations of unscrupulous traders and fraudulent bankrupts. The prime argument in favour of the draft Bill is that no honest and conscientious merchants will refuse to disclose the members of their partnership. If such an Ordinance were in operation the credits of reputable firms would advance in proportion to the character and liability of their partners. It has been said that the majority of those in favour of the Bill are newly-established firms, but that can hardly be cited as an argument against the principle of registration. These new firms realise the importance of knowing exactly with whom they are dealing, who are the partners of the firm to which they are asked to give credit, and what is the responsibility of the individual partners. It should be possible to amend the clauses of the Bill so as to meet the requirements of merchants, without unduly hampering or handicapping trade. The suggestion that such a Bill if passed into law will interfere with business has been the bugbear all along, and rather than experiment with an emasculated measure the objectors desire to sweep it out of existence. There is much truth in a southern contemporary's remarks that "a regrettable spirit of ultra-conservatism seems at the bottom of the crusade against this sound item in local legislation." In view of the opinions which have been expressed in Singapore against the Bill, and the arguments of conscientious objectors in Penang, it is very doubtful now whether the Government of the Straits Settlements will care to proceed with the second reading. However, that is no reason why Hongkong, instead of being led, should not lead in this matter of trade reform. The member who is elected to sit at the Legislative Council, in room of Sir Paul Chater, should be pledged to frame and submit a Bill for the registration of partnerships, and who more capable of undertaking such a duty than Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., the popular candidate for the vacancy?

A PUBLIC DANGER.

On two or more occasions during the past few days, reference has been made in our columns to the absurd policy of allowing the lower part of Ice House Street, while half of it is under repair, to remain open to vehicular traffic. Pedestrians are jostled and splashed by the fleeting rickshas, and when a couple of these machines going in opposite directions meet in the centre it is always doubtful which will survive the contest for precedence. To-day an accident occurred at the Des Vœux Road end of Ice House Street which showed how fatuous are those who persist in leaving the thoroughfare open to traffic so long as it is undergoing repairs either by the P. W. D. or some private concern. A rickshaw was rolling along Ice House Street towards the King Edward Hotel. At the junction with Des Vœux Road there is a barricade which will only permit of the passage of one vehicle at a time. The rickshaw had just reached this point, when another rickshaw, in which a lady was seated, appeared coming from the opposite direction. There was a collision, of course, and the lady was thrown to the ground, falling between the tram rails. At that moment a car had almost reached the Ice House Street corner. Fortunately the driver was on the alert, and the car was stopped within two yards of the lady who was lying directly in the track of the oncoming tram. Had there been the slightest hesitation on the part of the car-driver a terrible accident could not have been averted. The lady was taken to the rooms of the Stockbrokers' Association and after recovering from the shock was escorted to her residence. Surely this accident, and the possibilities which it indicates, will induce the authorities to close Ice House Street to vehicular traffic until the work of excavating the ground and repairing the roadway has been completed in this locality. Pedestrians can easily negotiate the passage, narrow as it is, but the irresponsible rickshaw-puller should be vigorously debarred from using the short cut to Des Vœux Road. At the best times Ice House Street at this section is far too narrow for ordinary traffic; at present it is almost criminal to allow vehicles into the thoroughfare. People in London do not rise in their wrath and slay the Government when they meet with a long wooden erection across the street bearing the words—"Street under repair—No thoroughfare." Why then should not the Hongkong authorities follow the example of the metropolis and close this dangerous passageway against rickshaws and chairs?

MR. H. E. POLLOCK, K.C.

(21st December.)

The election of Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., to the vacancy on the Legislative Council created by the retirement of Sir Paul Chater is entirely satisfactory. As the nominee of the unofficial Justices of the Peace, and therefore the representative of the Colony's most varied interests, Mr. Pollock takes his seat at the Council with a comparatively free hand. He is bound to no section or clique; he has no advantages to push for the benefit of any ring; and he can, therefore, take the broadest view of every question which comes up for discussion at the Council board. Although the last to come forward, Mr. Pollock was admittedly the strongest candidate for the vacancy. He has already had experience at the Legislative Council, but probably what moved the electorate to use the franchise in his favour was the fact that his interests in the welfare of the Colony and in the advancement of trade and commerce were wholly impersonal. As a sound and busy professional man at the bar, he has had long experience of the necessities of the mercantile community. As a lawyer he has delved into the most intricate questions affecting trade generally, and coming with an unbiased mind to the task has seen light where others, blinded by their own concerns, have been unable to pierce the gloom. Moreover, Mr. Pollock is recognised to be painstaking, conscientious, and earnest; he has proved himself to be capable of taking an impartial view of public questions, and his popularity as evidenced this afternoon is founded on the solid integrity which has been the key-note of his career. From the first we advocated the claims of Mr. Pollock, as one in whom the unofficial Justices of the Peace might fittingly and in all good faith put their trust. Some few of the circle of electors had already pledged themselves to vote for the other two candidates who were in the field even before Mr. Pollock had been approached. But, as we pointed out, those pledges were cancelled by the appearance of a third contestant for the vacancy, and our argument in support of that view was generally admitted. Still the other two candidates were no mean opponents to fight against, and the result of a triangular duel is always uncertain, owing to the fluctuating ideas of the electors, influenced by business interests, friendship, or other causes. No stone was left unturned by the supporters and seconders of Mr. Slade and Mr. Hewett, but they failed to convince the electorate that their nominees could show claims to the vacancy superior to those produced in favour of Mr. Pollock. The victory gained by Mr. Pollock in face of the stiff fight put up by his opponents is, consequently, all the more meritorious. He has the general body of the electors at his back, and he can depend upon their support. We welcome the Hon.

Mr. Pollock as the new member of the Legislative Council, and congratulate the unofficial Justices of the Peace on their good sense and intelligent appreciation of the fitness of things in electing Mr. Pollock to that responsible position.

AN UNEXPLOITED FIELD.

Hongkong merchants are not wont to lag behind in the race for trade supremacy, and consequently the remarks of Mr. Fred. W. Carey, the Acting Commissioner of Customs at Santuao, on the subject of trade opportunities in that district should not be neglected. Mr. Carey has gone beyond the dry accumulation of figures and the somewhat futile compilation of statistics, which are not always a safe guide, especially in China, to indicate how foreign trade might be fostered in the district he controls. As he remarks, the Chinese are essentially a canny race, which is another way of saying that they are not to be hoodwinked by specious promises and unproved facts. At present the Chinese in Santuao are dependent on Foochow for the goods they require, and the expense of obtaining articles from that port is considerably greater than it would be if the goods came from Hongkong direct. His suggestion is that some energetic merchant should open a "wares museum" where goods could be displayed and orders booked. The advantage of the "wares museum" has long been recognised both in Great Britain and America. Some months ago it was proposed by a number of merchants in England to fit up a steamer as an industrial exhibition, and send it round the colonies. Merchants in England would acquire a certain amount of space on the vessel and display the wares which they were prepared to sell. Each exhibiting firm would have a representative on board, who would explain to visitors the character and cost of the goods under his charge, and in this way it was hoped that an impetus would be given to the trade between the mother country and the colonies. The idea was very favourably received; it was characterised as a strengthening link in the Imperial bond, but whether it ever came to anything we do not at the moment remember. The point is that Mr. Carey in Santuao advocates the adoption of the same principle by merchants who wish to extend their trade and increase their business with China. Naturally the Chinese, like the majority of people, are not inclined to spend their money on some visionary object. The most beguiling tongue cannot charm the money out of the natives' pockets unless there is something tangible behind the honeyed speech. In other words the Chinese refuse to buy "a pig in a poke." It seems that there are plenty of wealthy people in Santuao who are itching to spend their money if they knew beforehand what they were likely to get in exchange. A perpetual wares museum would meet the requirements and encourage buyers. Judging from the optimistic tone of Mr. Carey's remarks, the merchant who established a samples depot would assuredly blossom into an oriental Whitely. When we learn that "merchants so far have made no attempt to exploit the trade of the neighbourhood or cater for the needs of the people" we recognise that there must be a vast field in China, at our very gates in fact, which is being allowed to lie fallow for want of individual enterprise. There is no doubt that a taste of western luxuries breeds an appetite for new concoctions, and the dealer who is content to stay out of his profits for a time is certain of great returns in the immediate future. What is said of Santuao might also be applied to other Coast ports with equal truth. Of course, we remember that another Customs official, Mr. de Galembert at Amoy, questions the advantage of introducing the Chinese to western pleasures. He considers it would be better if the people invested their money in mines or local industries and observes that while western luxuries may afford a "transitory increase of comfort to the buyers" they represent a dead loss to the national wealth. That is the remark of a philosophic economist rather than a trade representative or commercial scout, as Mr. Carey may be described, and we fancy the majority of people in Hongkong will give more attention to the originator of new trade ideas than to the paternal official who is anxious for the welfare of his flock. At all events Hongkong merchants might do worse than give their serious consideration to the suggestions advanced by Mr. Carey, whose energy and commercial instinct have induced him to direct attention to this new and very promising field of enterprise.

MR. POLLOCK'S PROGRAMME.

(22nd December.)

Mr. H. E. Pollock might almost be described as the "old parliamentary hand" of Hongkong. He had absolutely nothing to do with personalities at the meeting of unofficial Justices of the Peace yesterday and yet under the suggestion that he would lay his whole life bare he formulated a programme. There is nothing more dangerous than a programme, because if the single item, which the so-called man-in-the-street advocates, happens to be forgotten then his vote is forever lost. Mr. Pollock, however, never proved to better advantage his right to sit at the board of the Legislative Council than when he enunciated a programme of local needs. It is perfectly true that Hongkong is a Colony and not a village, but to those who live and have their being here, the question as to the situation of the nearest pump has a direct bearing. Of course Mr. Pollock was "carried away" when he said that debating power and the ability to speak in public were the most important qualifications in a representative of the unofficial Justices of the Peace at the Legislative Council. We do not want debaters, *soi-disant* or otherwise; neither do we want public speakers. What we most certainly do want is a representative sure of his facts, certain of his support, and prepared to go to lengths to gain what he and his seconders believe to be for the good of the people. The "old parliamentary hand" showed itself in Mr. Pollock's address when he submitted a list of subjects which should be dealt with. Everyone will agree that the P. W. D. needs a stirring up; everyone will agree that the water storage of Hongkong is inadequate; everyone will also agree that the fire appliances of Hongkong are not only useless but ridiculous for a city of 350,000 people. The question as to the resumption of land trust is on another footing. The Governor's letter to the Secretary of State was an unusually carefully-worded document, and though we all admit that the rookeries of the city should be demolished, it requires more than a simple objection to the abolition of the trust to prove that better methods can be instituted for the amelioration of the people's condition. With Mr. Pollock's suggestion that the masses should be instructed in hygiene and sanitation we are in entire agreement. That was the new suggestion which will be supported on all hands. A tenth part of constructive criticism is worth a bushel of condemnatory phrases. Mr. Pollock has set forth with a great programme of reforms; we are among those who believe that he has the energy and capacity to attain his objects. The meetings of the Legislative Council should be infinitely more interesting to the general public in the future—*bis* Mr. Robert Shewan—than they have been in the past.

SMALL-POX IN CANTON.

Small-pox has made its appearance in Canton with the probable result that unless most stringent precautions are adopted it will be carried to Hongkong. At the present time this Colony is so largely interested in the trade with Canton that the channels through which the disease may be conveyed are innumerable. Every day a large number of passengers regularly trade between the two ports, and those passengers are mixing with all sorts and conditions of people on the mainland. Small-pox, although it has been robbed of many of its terrors, is a most insidious disease, which has the quality of communicating itself to the most diverse population. Canton is still without an adequate sanitary system, and an epidemic, whether it be plague or small-pox, is allowed to run its course without any effort on the part of the authorities to check its progress. It is therefore all the more essential that the sanitary authorities of Hongkong should adopt measures to prevent, so far as possible, the ingress of the disease. Of course, everybody recognises that it is impossible to shut out absolutely those who have been in connection with Canton, and it is also undesirable that Hongkong should be closed against Canton. At the same time, the authorities are bound to recognise the danger which exists of allowing small-pox to get a foothold in this Colony. Fortunately this is the cold season, when the population generally is best able to resist the incursion of the disease; but small-pox, it must be remembered, is not so much subject to climatic influences as the usual diseases found in a sub-tropical country. It is therefore highly important that Hongkong should be prepared for all emergencies, for now that the plague has practically disappeared we do not desire to see the Colony handicapped by a universal quarantine injunction.

TELEGRAMS.

"HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" SERVICE.

SHANGHAI IN ARMS.

VOLUNTEERS CALLED OUT.

WARSHIPS TO THE RESCUE.

MEN, GUNS, AND AMMUNITION LANDED.

[*From Our Own Correspondent.*]

Shanghai, 18th December, 10.45 a.m.

The British Government has emphatically declared that it will not dismiss Mr. Twyman, the British Assessor at the Shanghai Mixed Court, as demanded by the Chinese.

The Chinese officials, in consequence of this refusal, are extremely wroth, and a riot is threatened to take place to-day.

The Volunteers have been called out.

Landing parties, with field guns, have been sent ashore from the British warships *Astræa* and *Bonaventure*, and from other warships lying at Shanghai.

The warships are taking up stations to protect the British and Foreign Concessions.

A great quantity of ammunition has been landed from the men-of-war, and ambulances have also been sent ashore in case of eventualities.

Every preparation is being made to guard against any outbreak on the part of the Chinese population, whose anti-foreign instincts are being fostered and encouraged by the Chinese officials.

Shanghai is in a ferment, and the utmost excitement prevails.

CONFIRMATORY REPORTS.

By Messrs. Joseph and Whitlow, share-brokers, we are courteously favoured with the following translation of a telegram they received from their Shanghai agent at 1.15 p.m. to-day:—

"Business is at a standstill.

"Revolution [riot] has broken out here."

Mr. Lenzmann, of the firm of Carlowitz and Co., received the following telegram, which had been despatched from Shanghai at 11.20 p.m.:—

"A serious riot has occurred; the military have been called out. There is nothing to fear. Please inform Hamburg."

[The relations between the Chinese and Foreign Assessors at the Mixed Court in Shanghai have for a considerable time past been at straining point. The Chinese Magistrate, Mr. Kuan, egged on it is believed by higher officials, has strenuously striven for supreme power in the Mixed Court and only the determined front shown by the Assessors has prevented him carrying everything his own way. The most decided upholder of the right of the foreign community of Shanghai to have a voice in the decisions delivered in the Mixed Court has been the British Assessor, Mr. Twyman, who has refused to be browbeaten, and has boldly declared that Chinese subjects tried within the bounds of the foreign settlements shall not be treated in the manner adopted by Chinese magistrates on their own territory, nor be subjected to the conditions prevailing in native courts. Mr. Kuan, urged by his superiors, has vainly endeavoured to curb the resolute British Assessor—who it is clear has the entire British population of Shanghai at his back and the support of the British authorities in China—with the result that a collision has been imminent for some time back. The crisis came a few days ago, when a party of children who it was alleged had been abducted from their homes were ordered by Mr. Kuan to be incarcerated in the common cells of the Chinese Criminal Prison. Mr. Twyman refused to sanction that decree and ordered the children to be sent to the Door of Hope, which seems to be another name for the Po Leung Kuk. Mr. Kuan objected and attempted to beat down Mr. Twyman by a show of force. Mr. Twyman called in the Municipal Police and there was a free fight but after a struggle the Police put the girls into a van and carried them off to the Door of Hope. Then the Magistrate, Mr. Kuan, reported to the Taotai what had occurred. According to a vernacular paper:—"The Shanghai Taotai sent several official despatches to the British Consul-General and the Senior Consul and other consuls. They deal with almost the same points already published. One of the despatches mentions that the Taotai informed the German Consul-General, Dr. Knappe, the retired Senior Consul, about the completion of the woman's ward in the Mixed Court three times and both the U.S. and German Assessors actually consented to hand the women over to the Mixed Court without difficulty which shows the matter is known to all the assessors, while the British ignorées and the women in the case are all still kept in the Municipal jail and they must be returned to the Mixed Court. Another explains that the women were arrested simply on a false report and they are not at all criminals and they were arrested improperly, and, moreover all their luggage is in the hands of the Municipal police which shall also be returned." It is explained that the girls had not been abducted but were the slaves of a lady the wife of a Chinese official.

On the 12th inst. the Taotai asked the U.S. Consul-General and Vice-Consul Arnold as well as the Chinese gentry to come and see the Taotai at the Bureau of Foreign Affairs, but as the U.S. Consul-General was busy with the consular meeting he did not accept the invitation. The *S. C. Daily Journal*, in its English column, publishes the following additional news:—

At the interview granted to the merchants and gentry by Taotai Yuan at the Bureau of Foreign Affairs, the former presented the following proposals, which, they urged, should be considered in the settlement of the Mixed Court (racas.

(1)—Since the Chinese residents in the International Settlement are holders of a large part of the real estate, they should be represented in the Municipal Court by a Chinese member or members.

(2)—Since Mr. Twyman has shown by his action a lack of knowledge of the treaties, he should be replaced by another assessor.

(3)—The police inspectors participating in the riot should be removed.

(4)—The police constables, who are also guilty of violence, must be punished.

(5)—In the future, all cases must be decided according to the regulations, i.e., the Magistrates are to enjoy full powers in purely Chinese cases. The female wards in the Municipal Gaol are to be abolished.—Ed., *H.K. T.*]

MOB LAW.

POLICE STATION, HOTEL DESTROYED.

FOREIGNERS ATTACKED.

20 CHINESE SHOT.

Shanghai, 18th December, 3.45 p.m.

The rioters have burnt the Louza Police Station and the Annexe to the Hotel Metropole.

Bluejackets have been landed from the warships *Bonaventure*, *Astræa*, and *Vaterland*.

The Volunteers are patrolling the streets.

All the women and children residing in the suburbs have been brought into the Concession and they are now lodged in the Country Club under a strong guard.

Several foreigners have been attacked by the riotous Chinese and robbed.

Several were wounded.

Business is entirely suspended.

About twenty of the Chinese rioters have been shot.

The Chinese are unarmed and without any organisation.

LIEN-CHAU MASSACRE.

THE BOARD'S FINDING.

DR. MACHLE'S CLAIM.

[*From Our Own Correspondent.*]

Canton, 18th December, 1905.

The Board of Inquiry into the Lien-chau massacre have now completed their labours.

They held seventeen sittings, and examined fifty-nine witnesses, a number of whom were recalled and further examined on several occasions.

Since their return to Canton the American members have taken further testimony and gone carefully through the voluminous notes from which they have drawn up a detailed report.

Late on Saturday afternoon, they telegraphed their finding to the Department of State at Washington, and it is understood that no indication whatever will be given here as to the views they have expressed to the American Government.

It has transpired that Dr. E. C. Machle has made claims on the Chinese Government amounting to close upon $58,000 (Mex.). This includes some $30,000, cost to replace the real estate destroyed or injured, and $28,000 for furnishing buildings and losses of personal property by the missionaries at Lien-chau station.

Claims of losses sustained by Chinese converts will probably be made. These amount to a considerable sum.

SHANGHAI EMEUTE.

ORDER COMPLETELY RESTORED.

30 FOREIGNERS & NATIVES WOUNDED.

CHINESE MAINTAIN MENACING ATTITUDE.

[*From Our Own Correspondent.*]

Shanghai, 19th December, 2.50 p.m.

Order was completely restored last night.

All the shops and business establishments in the foreign Settlements are open to-day.

It is estimated that the casualties resulting from the riot approximate thirty—including Foreigners and Chinese.

None of those who were wounded in the skirmishes has died.

One native, however, lies in a very serious condition.

As a result of the riot, the Louza police station has been partially burnt, the annex to the Hotel Metropole destroyed, and a foreign gunsmith's shop wrecked.

The Taotai has issued proclamations urging the native population to maintain order and to refrain from demonstrating against the Foreign community.

Bluejackets and Volunteers are still patrolling the streets, however, with the object of being prepared against further trouble.

The Chinese, particularly those of the coolie class, are in a very excited condition.

Some of the more inflammatory spirits maintain a threatening and menacing attitude.

[A rumour was in circulation in Hongkong this afternoon that the riot had broken out afresh in Shanghai and two foreigners killed, but the foregoing telegram received at this office at 4 p.m., seems to brand that report as a fabrication.—Ed., *H.K.T.*]

THE SHANGHAI RIOT

SUPPRESSED.

Shanghai, 19th Dec., 1905, 10.50 a.m.

The riot is now suppressed.

[The above telegram was kindly placed at our disposal by Messrs. Nemazee & Co., opium merchants, of Wyndham Street.—Ed., *H.K.T.*

AN ALARMIST TELEGRAM.

Messrs. Siemssen & Co. received a telegram from their Shanghai agents this forenoon which was not at all reassuring. It was handed in at the Shanghai office at 10.30 a.m. and read as follows:

"Riot renewed. Business stopped."

Our own telegram, it will be seen, was handed in at 2.50 p.m. The Shanghai agents of Messrs. Siemssen and Co. have only been guilty of that light misdemeanour which the journalist occasionally commits, the fault known as the "intelligent anticipation of events." In this case the anticipation, fortunately, was not fulfilled. It may be, however, that the agents referred to shipping matters, and it is just possible that there is a lull in that line until peace is absolutely declared tranquil. So long as Bluejackets and Volunteers patrol the streets it can hardly be said that Shanghai has returned to its normal condition.

FURTHER DISTURBANCES FEARED.

20th inst.

Mr. Lenzmann, of Carlowitz & Co., courteously informed a representative of the *Hongkong Telegraph* to-day that a wire had been received from Shanghai this morning with reference to the disturbances there. The wire stated:

"Riot has been suppressed. There is every reason to fear further disturbances will take place. Probably the disturbances will break out in the river ports."

The order that the *Dunera* should proceed North with troops has been cancelled. The *Dunera* starts for Southampton on the 22nd inst., as originally arranged.

SHANGHAI QUIET.

BLUEJACKETS RELIEVE VOLUNTEERS.

RE-OPENING OF THE MIXED COURT DOUBTFUL.

[*From Our Own Correspondent.*]

Shanghai, 21st December, 2.55 p.m.

Everything is quiet in Shanghai.

The Volunteers were relieved yesterday evening by Bluejackets in the duty of patrolling the city.

It is possible that the Mixed Court may not be opened again on account of the attitude which the foreign community has assumed towards it, in refusing to recognise its status.

THE SHANGHAI TROUBLE.

JAPANESE REINFORCEMENTS.

THE WATERWORKS ATTACKED.

ARRIVAL OF NANKING VICEROY.

[*From Our Own Correspondent.*]

Shanghai, 22nd Dec., 1905, 2.30 p.m.

The Japanese protected cruiser *Tsushima* and the river gunboat *Uji* have arrived. They have brought reinforcements in view of any disturbance breaking out.

Last evening an attack was made on the Waterworks by Chinese malcontents. It was repulsed.

Mounted Volunteer patrols have been put on duty and skirmishing parties formed.

To-day the Settlement is quite quiet.

The Viceroy of Nanking has arrived and desires to re-open the Mixed Court.

THE SHANGHAI RIOT.

BASIS OF AGREEMENT.

VIRTUAL CHINESE VICTORY.

FOREIGNERS' DISSATISFACTION.

[*From Our Own Correspondent.*]

Shanghai, 23rd December, 2.20 p.m.

It is reported that it has been agreed that the Municipal Female Gaol shall be abandoned.

The Chinese authorities shall retain custody of prisoners (being subjects of China) in future.

The Chinese authorities recognise Mr. Twyman as the British assessor *pro tem.*

It will be left to the Governments of Great Britain and China to define the position of the assessor at the Mixed Court.

The terms of the agreement are regarded by the foreign community in Shanghai as tantamount to a Chinese victory. As such it is cause for much dissatisfaction amongst the foreigners.

The Waiwupu has denounced Taotai Yuen in his attitude towards the affair.

The Mixed Court has been opened to-day.

The city is patrolled by three thousand bluejackets from the various men-of-war in port.

PARTNERSHIP REGISTRATION.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

REJECT SINGAPORE BILL.

[*From Our Own Correspondent.*]

Singapore, 19th Dec., 1905, 5 p.m.

A special meeting of the Singapore Chamber of Commerce was held here to-day.

It was convened for the purpose of considering a resolution pledging the Chamber to oppose the draft Bill for the Registration of Partnerships and Firms.

After discussion, it was resolved by a majority of thirteen to reject the Bill.

The voting was: 20 for the Bill, and 7 against.

THE SINGAPORE MEMORANDUM.

After reciting the history of previous discussion the circular issued by the Singapore Chamber of Commerce, on 14th inst., says.—Last year Government again addressed the Chamber to inquire whether it wished to move further in the matter. By a majority of one, the Committee of the Chamber considered registration desirable, but found it impossible to say whether the general body of the members of the Chamber would favour registration until they had seen the measure itself.

The present Bill has now been introduced and is again substantially the same as the two preceding Bills.

A large majority of the Committee is opposed to it.

[illegible] tion of Partnerships Bill in 1888 says—"In order to induce members of partnerships to see that they are registered as such clause 9 (now 12) imposes certain disabilities on unregistered partners, and sub-section 2 of that clause will have the desirable effect of putting an end to attempts to render persons, who are not partners liable as quasi-partners, on the ground that they have held themselves out as partners. It is intended that as between the creditor and the firm the Register shall be conclusive as to the constitution of the firm." The Chief Justice (Sir Thomas Sidgreaves) in the debate in Council in 1895 said, "There is no difficulty as *to a man who represents himself to be a partner* because he *is* a partner to those to whom he makes these representations. He cannot say afterwards he is not a partner, to third persons, he *is* a partner."

It appears to the Committee therefore that the creditors will be deprived by this Bill of the powers they at present possess and successfully use, of suing a man who can be proved to be a partner, and is in fact a partner, but who might not under the Ordinance be registered.

On the other hand if the register is not to be made conclusive evidence of partnership it would serve no useful purpose and the Ordinance becomes valueless.

The Committee consider that amongst Chinese there would be many unregistered partners, who would enjoy immunity from being sued, and who would be quite content to rely upon their own methods for recovering debts of partnerships, which, under the Bill, they would not be able to claim in the Courts.

It appears to them therefore that the disabilities of the Bill are more likely to fall upon the European creditors than upon native debtors, and the evils thus resulting will exceed those now existing.

The committee of course recognise that each successive Official Assignee has urged some such measure to secure the more efficient working of the Bankruptcy Ordinance. They observe, however, from the Annual Reports of the Department, that other measures are also proposed for the same end, such as the stamping of books, and if the argument is to hold, that the Official Assignee's recommendations in one instance are to be followed, it is difficult to escape the conclusion that they should also be adopted in others. The result however of this class of legislation would, in the opinion of this committee, lead to unnecessary official interference with the conduct of business, and place restrictions upon our trade which it has always been the aim of the community at large to avoid.

The question is really one of much larger application and should be considered from the general effect it would have on the large body of traders, rather than upon the small section that go into the Bankruptcy Courts. Regarded in this light, the question resolves itself into the giving of credit, which this Committee considers to be a matter of individual judgment against which merchants are in the habit of writing off delcredere commission sufficient, it is understood, to cover all losses. If persons choose to run certain risks, it does not appear to be a matter in which the legislature should be called upon to interfere, even if, as has been alleged, some merchants have better means of information than others. It may or may not be true that they have, but such a principle for legislation is highly objectionable, and if extended would entail serious interference with trade in other directions.

From the figures of the failures given in the reports, which, (though admittedly inaccurate) may be taken for purposes of general comparison, it would appear as if the number of failures were not on the increase during the past 15 years, and do not exceed in the two Settlements $1,000,000 per annum, of which a proportion is of course recovered. It is not contended that failure to recover the balance is entirely, or even mainly due to non-registration of partnership. On the contrary, registration is but one measure, which it is urged in the reports of the Bankruptcy Department, would save the time of the Official Assignee and possibly save some loss to the creditors. The loss that would be incurred if partners did not register, has already been pointed out. But even if the whole loss turned upon the registration of partnerships, the Committee fail to see that even this advantage of the measure would compensate the community for the hardship, inconvenience and restrictions imposed by the Bill on the sound trade which never goes near the Bankruptcy Courts.

Failure to collect assets in Bankruptcy seems to be more largely due to the removal of assets outside the Colony. It would be no satisfaction to know who the partners of a firm were, if they were absent in inaccessible places. Indeed, it is not impossible that many firms might leave their business in the hands of managers, who in effect would be unregistered partners might be in Java, or China. It appears to the Committee that the efforts of the Chamber might be better directed in urging upon the Government the advisability of coming to some arrangement with the Native States and Dutch Colonies for bringing bankruptcies in those parts into account with bankruptcies in the Colony, for the fairer division of assets amongst the creditors in both.

The attention of members of the Chamber is requested to the developments that have taken place in the proposed measure. First as the outcome of a half-hearted report it was refused by the Chamber on account of its sweeping character. Subsequently it was brought forward four years later upon a resolution of the Chamber in general meeting favouring the general question by a majority of 3, only to be again withdrawn. Proposed from time to time during the last ten years, apparently as the result of the Official Assignees' reports, cold water has been persistently thrown upon it by successive committees of the Chamber, whose action has never been called in question in their annual reports. The objections that have led to the withdrawal of the measure in the past have not been removed, but on the contrary increased. Thus though it was considered by its advocates in 1885 that it should not apply to traders whose stock in trade was less than $5,000, and though the original Bill excepted contracts under $250, the present Bill provides for *universal* registration. The meanest trader will have to register or he will not be able to recover the debts due to him. The hardship this will entail on traders coming in and out of our ports from other places must, in the opinion of the Committee, result in driving them away, and the trade of the Colony will be seriously affected. A vast and cumbersome Registry Office would have to be instituted in which all would have to register once a year. Then arises the question of identity. Always a difficulty with an Asiatic population, on the solution of which depends the success of registration. The most stringent provisions have been introduced and particular attention is drawn to section 6, which cannot but press hardly upon the entire trading community, but the Committee recognize that they are the results of most careful consideration on the part of the framers of the Bill, and are deemed necessary for the successful working of the measure.

The Committee must also draw attention to the question of fees. Section 16 provides that "all fees taken under this Ordinance shall form part of the public revenue of the Colony." The intention was that fees should not be high, and in 1895 an amendment was proposed by Government to the Bill of 1894 "All stamps from stamp duty except in respect of fees payable under this Ordinance." That amendment has not been introduced into the present Bill, and the provisions of section 6 must therefore often entail extra expense on the registering firm.

The doctrine of direct penalties considered impracticable by Commission in 1885 and condemned in Council when first the question was brought forward is now introduced. The Committee view it with great apprehension. It amounts in their opinion to Government licensing of traders who will not in future be able to establish their firms or chops without satisfying the registrar as to the particulars required by section 6 and possibly by further rules passed by the Governor in Council under section 17. They cannot too strongly condemn such tampering with the freedom of the port.

[Private.]

FARNHAM, BOYD'S

INTERIM DIVIDEND.

Messrs. Benjamin, Kelly, and Potts, writing under to-day's date kindly inform us that they have received from Shanghai the following telegram:—

"Messrs. S. C. Farnham, Boyd and Company, Limited, have declared an interim dividend of Tls. 7 per cent. payable from 6th January, 1906. The transfer books will be closed on the 23rd instant."

CHINA TRADERS' INSURANCE COMPANY, LD.

THE AMALGAMATION SCHEME.

16th inst.

The thirty-ninth ordinary meeting of the shareholders of the China Traders' Insurance Company, Ltd., was held at the head office, Queen's Buildings, at noon to-day. Mr. A. Haupt, chairman of directors, presided, and those present were: Messrs. E. Goetz, A. R. Linton, and C. R. Lenzmann, directors; James Whittall, Secretary; Ho Fook, W. Parlane, J. Orange, G. de Champeaux, J. R. Michael, F. Paget Hett, and O. A. da Cruz.

The Secretary read the notice calling the meeting.

The Chairman said:—Gentlemen—Before submitting my remarks on the business specially before the meeting, I desire to refer to the loss, by death, since we last met, of a very old and valued servant of this Company—our late Secretary, Mr. W. H. Ray—whose decease occurred on the 2nd August last. Mr. Ray lived but only a short span after his enforced retirement, and I am sure that you will desire to join with your Directors in again formally expressing our deep sense of the loss of one who served us so well and so faithfully for so many years. The report and statement of accounts which we to-day present for your adoption—and which, with your permission, I will take as read—do not, I am sorry to say, realise our hopes of a year ago, but our Chairman, on a recent occasion of our meeting to, other, foreshadowed this, and you will, therefore, have been somewhat prepared for this expression of disappointment. As then intimated, however, the results of the past year's working are primarily due to the quite exceptional experiences caused by the Russo-Japanese war, now happily at an end, and through which we, in common with most other marine insurance companies, have temporarily suffered. It is true that the abnormal increases in both our premium income and loss settlements are due to the acceptance of war risks, and it might be inferred, therefore, that that particular class of business had not dealt kindly with us. In the sense that it has not been very satisfactory, that is so, but I am glad to be able to say that, if we succeed in recovering the substantial refunds in respect of payments made, which we hope to recover on such risks as the *Knight Commander*, *Hipsang*, *St. Kilda*, and various others, our ventures in this particular direction will not, so far as the year's operations under review are concerned, result in any material loss, and it is even quite possible that our war risk business covering the whole period of the war may yet result in a profit. It is more to our general and ordinary business that we must look for the falling off, for whilst on the one hand the disorganisation of trade owing to the war is accountable for a substantial decrease in our normal takings, I am sorry to say a corresponding decrease in our normal claim settlement is not so apparent. In all the circumstances I think we may congratulate ourselves that we are able to maintain our div dend and bonus on last year's basis—as your Direction think we quite safely can do—to know that although the amount left to be carried to suspense appears small, yet with that addition we still have a suspense fund more than ample to meet our known outstanding liabilities; and that if we are only moderately fortunate in our ultimate recoveries in respect of war risks, the former position of our liquid reserves is likely to be completely reinstated. The accounts themselves are otherwise, I think, self-explanatory. Messrs. Palmer & Turner have as usual reported on the properties under mortgage to the company, and their valuations show ample margins of security. I take this opportunity of referring to a matter in which you will naturally be interested. In response to our circular of the 16th October last, the votes of our shareholders on the recent offer made to them by the Union Insurance Society of Canton, Ld., have, as returned, proved sufficiently satisfactory to the Society for them to claim the fulfilment of the undertaking entered into by our assenting shareholders, and, subject only to their shareholders now giving their sanction to the necessary increase of capital, the arrangement will be duly completed. In the meantime it has been agreed between us on approximate estimates made, that the ratio for the exchange of shares on the intrinsic values of the shares of the respective companies to be taken as at the 31st December next, shall be fixed at the "convenient round figure" of ten of the Company's shares for one of the Society's shares. No provision has been made for the Society to receive back any balance in cash in the event of the approximate estimates proving to have been too much in favour of the China Traders' shareholders, and it was necessary, therefore, that there should be left a margin of safety in favour of the Society. In addition, however, to the exchange of scrip, certificates will be issued by the Society to the Company's assenting shareholders, entitling them or their assignees to any cash balance that may eventually be ascertained to be due to them, together with simple interest at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum. These certificates, which it is intended to make transferable by endorsement in order to make them readily saleable, are to be redeemable as soon as practicabl after the 31st December, 1908, by which time it is conceded that the accounts of the respective companies as to the 31st December next will have run off, or if not, any outstanding liabilities can without difficulty be estimated. For the purpose of ascertaining the final intrinsic value, it has also been agreed that the total net assets of the respective companies as at the 31st December next shall be valued at the rates of exchange of that date, and that all subsequent payments made, and recoveries received, in respect of 1905 and previous years, shall be reckoned at current rates of exchange. The balance as the said intrinsic value, we understand that it is the intention of the Society to repeat its former offer, not only to those of our shareholders who have so far not replied, but also to those who have declined. A further agreement has been previously entered into, and will in due course be ratified, in respect of a working arrangement between the two companies, which we hope and believe will prove to be beneficial to the shareholders, and also to the constituents, of both companies. I think I have now dealt with all points calling for comment, but before formally moving the adoption of the report and accounts, I shall be glad to give so far as I can, any further information that may be desired.

No questions were asked.

The Chairman moved the adoption of the report and statement of accounts as presented.

Mr. da Cruz seconded.

The motion was carried unanimously.

Mr. Parlane moved that Messrs. A. R. Linton and C. R. Lenzmann be confirmed in their appointment as directors.

Mr. Ho Fook seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

On the motion of Mr. de Champeaux, seconded by Mr. J. R. Michael, Messrs. Linton and Lenzmann were re-appointed directors of the Company.

Mr. Paget Hett moved, and Mr. Parlane seconded, the re-election of Messrs. T. Arnold and H. U. Jeffries as auditors of the Company, which was carried.

The Chairman—That is all the business. I thank you for your attendance. Dividend warrants will be ready on Monday morning.

TURF TOPICS.

THE SUBSCRIPTION GRIFFINS.

16th inst.

The race course is beginning to assume its usual training aspect. Two or three riding "boys" have put in an appearance. Our local "jocks" turn up regularly and from the coffee room can be heard the usual racing chestnuts, but among that crowd I miss the brown trilby and the genial face beneath it. Our worthy Clerk of the Course up to the present stage is only a visitor.

Not much galloping has been done. Highland Laird regularly rattles off a twice-round the course on Wednesdays and Saturdays, in his own inimitable style.

Banzai and Highlandman also canter their mile and a quarter—the former blowing like a grampus, and the latter with his ears laid back, scratching along, like a scared Chinese pig. Sometimes these two ponies are joined by Alarm, with our budding jock up, who really rides very well. I take the opportunity of congratulating him upon his much improved riding and hope that he may have some winning mounts at the coming race meeting.

The good old slave, Grafton, is also made to negotiate a mile and a half or thereabouts under protest the whole way, twice a week. I fancy anno domini is beginning to tell its tale.

Mr. Hough's blue dun griffin has also been sent a mile and a quarter two or three times. *Apropos* of this pony I must say I have a great fancy for him. He is a big upstanding pony, of good bone and su stance and is of a good colour. He gallops with a long, racking stride, and with feather-weight Mackie in the saddle seems to make light work of any distance. He reminds me very much of old Set in appearance.

All the subscription griffins of the first drawing have put in an appearance, save three, two of which I believe are at Government House stables. I presume they are being worked on the road during the early mornings, and may perhaps spring a Celtic surprise on us on race-days.

The other one—Mr. Jupp's draw—is suffering from a sore back, and will not be able to be ridden for about a week.

Mr. Babington's pony was trotted round for the first time this morning and appears to be perfectly sound. He is a real little gem, and I prophesy that, if he only stands up, will make some of his rivals gallop on race day.

Mr. Bolles' draw—No. 5—is a pony that I very much like the look of. Although looking very poor on arrival and when unshaven and unshorn, he is already beginning to make up for his uncouth first impression. He is a lengthy grey, with plenty of scope and long barrelled.

At first he was rather "bobbery," but now trots round the course like a thorough little "gentleman." One fault against him, is that he appears to have "a leg," but let us hope that it may not trouble him until after the meeting.

Mr. Dorabjee's big black, whose mode of progression strongly resembles a crab, and who is usually shepherded by the "Trainer," is not a bad sort. He is very poor in condition and is rather ewe-necked, but when made up, will be a powerful pony.

Mr. Chater, Jr., has a natty iron grey whose first essay on the course was an effort to climb the bank, but was happily frustrated in his design by Abdull II., the colour of whose skin, on returning from the combat, almost made one believe that the Biblical impossibility of the Ethiopian being able to change his skin seemed possible.

Mr. Craig's draw is another taking pony and of a right good colour. He is small, but shows quality, and I have yet to see a pony win a race who did not show something out of the ordinary.

Mr. Dickson's grey is a very heavy customer and, like a good many China ponies, made in two sections. His hind quarter looks like the anatomy of some other creature.

Mr. Cruick bank has a very gay little chestnut; but he does not find favour in his owner's eyes who describes it as follows:—"How do I like my draw?"—"I really am not very much in love with the beast, and if you ask me to describe him, I should say that he was of the common or garden variety. In fact, to call him a China *pig* would exactly fill the bill."

Regarding the other subscription griffins, twenty-one are on board the steamer *Kwong Sang*, which is due to arrive about Monday.

THE RIDING BOY.

ONLY 50 GRIFFINS FOR HONGKONG.

The *Shanghai Times*, of 11th inst, says:—The Shanghai Horse Bazaar trial for Hongkong subscription griffins took place at half past nine yesterday morning over a three-quarter mile distance.

36 were tried, 15 being passed. The times ranged from 1-37 1-5 to 1-40 3-5.

34 have now been passed, only 16 more being required.

Hongkong has changed the order from 60 to 50.

LATEST ARRIVALS.

18th inst.

We have to announce the arrival to-day of the second batch of subscription griffins for Hongkong consigned to the Hongkong Jockey Club. The I.G.S.N. Co.'s steamer *Kwong Sang*, which arrived here and was moored alongside Jardine's wharf at West Point at daylight to-day, had on board, and quartered on the after part of the vessel, twenty-three China ponies for this port.

A *Hongkong Telegraph* reporter boarded the [illegible] and from the second officer of the ship he learnt that they had a very good trip down, calm weather prevailing throughout the journey. The ponies, therefore, had a quiet time. They fed well and an awning was placed on both sides of the vessel where they were boxed to protect them from the sun.

The landing operation was commenced at twenty minutes past nine and a little after 10.30 the twenty-three ponies were on their way to the Horse Repository at Causeway Bay. The landing was supervised by Mr. G. W. Gegg, the manager of the stables, and we must say that the landing of the animals was carefully carried out and from the time taken it must be admitted that it was quick work.

Twenty-one of the ponies are subscription griffins for the coming races. One is a polo pony consigned to Mr. Menoca', while the other—completing the number—is the well-known racing pony *Athosch*, formerly owned by Mr. Ring of Shanghai. This pony, our readers might remember, raced at the last Shanghai race meeting and, piloted by the veteran jockey Meyerink, carried off the Shanghai Gold Challenge Cup and later the China Cup. He is now, we understand, the property of Mr. W. A. Cruickshank, of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co.

In the opinion of a racing gentleman the present lot is the better of the two. He said: "I must say that there are some excellent ponies in this group, good colours, a good stamp of ponies and well-built animals."

"When are the others expected from Shanghai to complete the consignment?" a Shanghai man was asked, who came down with the ponies.

The native, who spoke good English, replied: "I think next week. I believe there are only twenty-one ponies more for Hongkong at Shanghai, and as the Horse Bazaar are short of horse boxes they are awaiting these boxes to be sent back. The thirteen boxes which came here with the ponies by the *Choy Sang* have been returned, so, it will not be long before the remaining ponies are down."

OUR REPORTER'S FANCY.

A chestnut bearing the number 22 on his head-gear is about the best pony of the lot. He is a pretty pony, possesses a good colour and walks well, and shows signs of being a good galloper.

Pony No. 30 is from Achow of Shanghai, we hear. On being hoisted he created a bit of a disturbance in his box, and on being landed "flew" out of the box. It took two coolies to hold him back. He is another good-looking animal, carrying himself well, and the only peculiarity about him is his tail, which resembles that of a donkey. He was immediately nicknamed "Donkey-tailed."

No. 18 is a well-built pony, and strong looking, but from appearances he looks to be wild.

THE DRAWING.

The drawing was held at the Horse Repository this afternoon, and quite a few "Sports" were present. We give, together with the names of the gentlemen securing ponies, a detailed description of each animal:—

Pony No. 14.—Drawn for Mr. Newall. This pony is a big and powerful chestnut. He looks better in front than he does behind.

Pony No. 15.—Drawn for Mr. Ellis Kadoorie. A big and rather heavy iron-gray.—a rather bad coloured one; heavy in the shoulder, yet seems a good stayer.

Pony No. 16.—Drawn for Mr. E. Goetz. A small bay pony. He possesses a beautiful shoulder, but rather light behind.

Pony No. 17.—Drawn for Mr. H. N. Mody. A very good-looking black. To judge by appearance he seems to have been trained before. He is short in the back.

Pony No. 18.—Drawn for Hon. Mr. R. Shewan. A very handsome dun, possessing great bone and substance. Has a nice head and looks like carrying some weight.

Pony No. 19.—Drawn for Mr. Flynn. A small grey and very shapely pony. He is well ribbed up. Possesses good shoulder and quarter.

Pony No. 20.—Drawn for Mr. Herbert Rose. Another iron-grey. One of the best bodied ponies in the bunch, but is of that detestable colour.

Pony No. 21.—Drawn for Mr. A. C. Hynes. Another bay, and again a nice looking one. He is a grand shaped pony with a nice, rich colour. He has, however, a small eye.

Pony No. 22.—Drawn for Mr. W. Inglis. A chestnut, who is in appearance like a little horse. Splendid hind quarter, but appears to be little calf-kneed.

Pony No. 23.—Drawn for Mr. T. F. Hough. A wall-eyed marble grey. He was landed in a poor condition and we surmise he did not feed well on the voyage.

Pony No. 24.—Drawn for Mr. J. R. M. Smith. A very natty and racy-looking chestnut. He appears to have done some work and partly trained. In appearance he reminds one of Mr Kadoorie's Somali.

Pony No. 25.—Drawn for Capt. Smith, A.D.C. A small and short iron-grey. As a rule ponies of this colour does not prove true on the "eventful day," but perhaps there may be an exception.

Pony No. 26.—Drawn for Mr. E. W. Mitchell. A beautiful big brown pony. He looks a real good sort, but appears to be a little old. However, he is a rare shaped one.

Pony No. 27.—Drawn for Mr. J. Meier. A dark brown. Another good stamp of peny. His back and hind quarters remind one of The Dealer.

Pony No. 28.—Drawn for 129th Baluchis. Another iron grey. Strong and heavy looking.

Pony No. 29.—Drawn for V. T. Christiani. A small brown nippy looking pony, measuring about 13h. We do not think he could carry much weight.

Pony No. 30.—Drawn for Mr. H. Humphreys. A black pony, with donkey tail. Another uncommon appenage in China ponies, but they are usually good. He is a first rate walker and a handsome animal.

Pony No. 31.—Drawn for Mr. G. H. Potts. A handsome bay. For some reason or another one of his ears is trimmed close which gives him a mean appearance. Very nice looking pony, nevertheless.

Pony No. 32.—Drawn for Dr G. P. Jordan. One of the prettiest ponies of the group, a grey. A good deal of the Arab about him.

Pony No. 33.—Drawn for Mr. T. S. Forrest. A very big brown short backed pony, but very powerful. Looks like making a heavy-weight polo pony.

Pony No. 34.—Drawn for Mr. C. G. Mackie A grey, and a heavy type of pony.

DATE OF MEETING.

According to present arrangements, the dates fixed for the annual race meeting are the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd March next. The Off Day races will be run on the 6th idem.

BAZAAR OF TOYS.

PREPARING FOR THE XMAS TREAT.

16th inst.

One of the most deserving charities in Hongkong is that which has for its object the entertainment of 700 poor children and 200 old people on Christmas Day. This charity has become an institution in Hongkong, and those who can speak of "pence and good-will," will readily accede to the appeal which is made to support the Bazaar of Toys which will be held in the grounds of the Roman Catholic Cathedral to-morrow, in aid of the annual treat. The Bazaar has been arranged under the auspices of the Catholic Union and the articles comprise everything that is dear to the child mind. This is the seventh year that this Christmas entertainment is being provided for old and young and as the success of these entertainments wholly depends upon the munificence of those who visit the Bazaar it is to be trusted there will be a large muster at the Roman Catholic grounds to-morrow. The Bazaar of Toys takes place between the hours of 9 and 11 at night. An appeal for inexpensive articles to be disposed of for the benefit of the children was issued by the Catholic Union, Glenealy, some time ago, and it is understood there has been a gratifying response. In the afternoon, beginning at 4 p.m., the children's stalls and tea house will be opened, when a small insignificant charge for admission will be made—50 cents for adults; children are free. It is to be hoped there will be a large attendance both at the Bazaar in the evening and at the afternoon function. It means so much to the poor children and to the aged poor that few who can attend will fail to be present.

HONGKONG MEDICAL COLLEGE.

THE CALENDAR.

16th inst.

The Calendar (for 1906) of the Hongkong College of Medicine for Chinese has just been issued. It is not a bulky publication, being merely a brochure, but it should be of interest to the alumni and undergraduates of the college. It follows the traditional lines of university calendars, giving the Court, Senate, and general council, together with the time-table of the long session of 1906. The rules and regulations for entrance to the college, and matriculation, the term of study, and the scholarships at the disposal of the college are stated, along with the names of the present holders of scholarships, and there is a list of the papers set at the professional examinations in August, 1905. The Senatus is composed as follows:—

Anatomy—R. MacLean Gibson, M.D. C.M. (Edin.); Biology (Botany and Zoology)—Alfred H. Crook, M.A. (Dublin.), F.R.G.S. (Eng.); Chemistry and Physics—Harold Macfarlane, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S. (Edin.), D.P.H. (Oxon.); Clinical Medicine and Surgery—Staff of Alice Memorial and Nethersole Hospital; Dental Surgery—Joseph W. Noble, D.D.S. (Penna., U.S.A.); Eye Diseases—Gregory P. Jordan, M.B., C.M. (Edin.), M.R.C.S. (Eng.); Materia Medica and Therapeutics—Oswald Marriott, L.R.C.P. (Lond.), M.R.C.S. (Eng.); Medical Jurisprudence—Hon. Ho Kai, C.M.G., M.B., C.M., (Aber.); M.R.C.S. (Eng.), Barrister-at-Law; Midwifery and Gynæcology—Charles Forsyth, M.B., CH. B., F.R.C.S. (Edin.); Pathology and Bacteriology—William Hunter, M.B., C.M. (Aber.); Physiology—D. Hunter Ainslie, M.B., CH. B., D.P.H. (Aber.), D.T.M. (Camb.); Practice of Medicine—Frederic T. Keyt, M.D., C.M., D.P.H. (Aber.); Public Health—Hon. Dr. Francis Clark, M.D. (Dublin.), L.R.C.P., (Lond.), M.R.C.S. (Eng.), D.P.H. (Camb.); Surgery, Wilfred V. M. Koch, M.D., C.M. (Edin.); Tropical Disease—John C. Thomson, M.A., M.D., C.M., D.P.H. (Edin.), D.T.M. (Camb.); Director of Studies—R. MacLean Gibson, M.D., C.M. (Edin.). College Tutors—Ho Ko Tsun, L.M.S. (Hongkong), and Jeu Hawk, M.D. (Oregon, U.S.A.)

The brochure is well printed and should be in the hands of all interested in the work of the College.

THE CHINA UNITED SERVICES RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

NEW RULES AND REGULATIONS.

16th inst.

By the courtesy of the hon. secretary, Lieut. C. W. Case Morris, of the 2nd Royal West Kents, we have received an advance copy of the rules and regulations of the China United Rifle Association, which is described as a "Revival of the Hongkong Rifle Association of 1882-1902." Now that an increased interest is being manifested in shooting, an interest encouraged by His Excellency the Governor, and exhibited in the large numbers who weekly visit the rifle range at Kowloon, the publication of these rules and regulations will do much to fix the points and acquaint service, volunteer, and volunteer reserve riflemen with the exact conditions under which matches will take place. His Excellency Sir Matthew Nathan is the patron, while Major-General Villiers Hatton, C.B., is the president. The council consists of members from all branches of the services and volunteers. The Executive Committee for the ensuing year is as follows:—President, Lt.-Col. C. H. U. Price, D.S.O. 129th (D. C. O.) Baluchis. Members—Capt. G. Carpenter, R.M.L.I., H.M.S. *Tamar*, Major H. J. Kelsall, R.A.; Lieut. Cooper, R.E.; Captain E. C. L. Fitzwilliams, A.S.C.; Lt. C. W. Case Morris; 2nd R. W. K., Regt. (Hon. Secretary); Major Chitty, 129th (D.C.O.) Baluchis; Lieut. McLean, 119th Moultans; Hongkong Volunteer Reserve Association, Mr. W. H. Trenchard Davis. There is no representative of the Hongkong Volunteers on the Committee as yet.

Under the rules it is declared that The Association will be known as "The China United Services Rifle Association" and be considered the successor of the H.K.R.A. of 1882-1902. The medals of the Association will have on the obverse the device of the Chinese Dragon with C.U.S.R.A. 1887. On the reverse a laurel wreath encircling a space for the winner's name and round the wreath the word "Hongkong" and date. The following are eligible for membership:—

Class A.—Any Officer of the Army, Navy, Volunteers, Volunteer reserve Association, or Police or any N.C.O. or private of Volunteers desirous of joining under this class on paying an annual subscription of $10; or the whole of the Officers of any Unit may jointly become members on payment of an annual subscription of $50.

Class B.—Any Warrant Officer, Petty Officer or N.C.O. of the Regular Forces not below the rank of Full Sergeant, all Sergeant Instructors of the Volunteers, and all privates of the Volunteers not becoming members under Class A and members of the Police Force on payment of an annual subscription of $5; any ten individuals of any one Unit may jointly become members on payment of an annual subscription of $30.

Class C.—All N. C. O.'s under the rank of Full Sergeant and privates of the Regular Forces and all able seamen on payment of an annual subscription of $2; or any 25 individuals of any Unit may jointly become members on payment of an annual subscription of $30. For the purposes of this rule, the following shall be deemed to be "Units":—"G. A., R. E., British Infantry Regt., Native Infantry Regt., Departments & Corps, Volunteer Corps, Police, H. M. Ships.

The advantages conferred by membership are (1) that certain matches are open only to members, (2) that entrance fees for the "aggregates" are lower for members than for non-members, and (3) that a copy of the programme and report is sent *gratis* to every paid up member.

All ordinary members of 3 years' continuous standing, on leaving the Colony will have their names enrolled as life members. The Committee reserve to themselves the right of conferring life membership on individuals after 7 years' continuous membership. Donors of $50 or upwards to the funds of the Association and donors of prizes to the value of $100 to be competed for at the annual Prize Meetings shall be *entitled to be enrolled as life members* of the Association.

The following members of the Committee of the Hongkong Rifle Association in 1902 will be considered as life members:—H. E. Sir Henry Blake, G.C.M.G., Admiral Sir Cyprian Bridge, K.C.B., H. E. Major-General Sir Wm. Gascoigne, Lieut. M. S. Northcote, H. K. Volunteers, and Major A. Chapman, H. K. Volunteers.

It will be seen from the above that membership in the Association is open to all who wear the King's uniform. The general regulations deal with competitions, all of which will be held under N. R. A. rules. The publication of this plain and clear statement of the aims and conditions of the Association should do much to still further straighten shooting in the Colony, and, from the civilian's point of view, act as a stimulating agency or rather a recruiting force for the volunteers. The brochure, which extends to 23 pages, is printed in clear type, on good paper, the printers being Messrs. Noronh & Co. All who have the love of shooting a heart and who remember the old Hongkong Rifle Association will wish its revival under the name of the China United Services Rifle Association a long life of vigour and usefulness.

ANTI-FOREIGN FEELING IN KWANGSI PROVINCE.

THE BOYCOTT AND REFORM.

[*From A Correspondent.*]

Canton, 14th December.

The present condition of affairs in South China cannot be better expressed than through the medium of gentlemen whose special mission it is to mingle with the people of all classes in an endeavour to enlighten them upon some of the more elementary rudiments of Western learning. They are brought more closely in contact with the home life of the masses, and have greater facilities for gauging their feelings and estimating the true value of expressions than the casual wanderer who, in the interests of trade, lead a nomadic life in the interior and have no responsibility other than bartering with the merchant and initiating him into the mysteries of a foreign deal. Among those who are best qualified to speak on the problems that are at present awaiting solution in Kwangsi province, must be classed the Rev. H. O. T. Burkwall, who, for some considerable time past, has been journeying through the provinces of Kwangtung and Kwangsi in the interests of the British and Foreign Bible Society. He has just returned from a tour through some of the barren districts of Kwangsi, and but for the trouble at Lien-chau would now be tramping across country from Wu-chow to the city which has gained such notoriety of late owing to the massacre of the American missionaries. On the 14th of October last he left Canton for the terminal point of the West River steamers, and from Wu-chow travelled on a launch for a day and then set out on foot for a journey across to Liu-chow, some 250 miles away. Accompanied by two native assistants, he started to visit some of the inland towns and villages for the purpose of selling scriptures and Christian calendars. For the most part he carried the Gospels and Acts in Chinese, which are offered for sale at 7 cash a book, while for the poorer classes he has Bibles especially printed, but as a rule there are not taken into the interior for sale among the general public.

"The first thing," he said, "that attracted my attention up there" was at a place above Wu-chow, called Pingnam, where official proclamations were posted prohibiting the idol procession known as *ta tsiu*, about which so much has been heard in connection with the massacre at Lien-chau. It appears that at this place the merchants held a meeting and endeavoured to induce the officials to allow them to carry on the procession, as they had already subscribed a considerable sum to the festivity. But this was denied them, and a night or two before I arrived one of the natives, while in a trance, led the people into believing that he had received a special communication from the idols themselves. At any rate, while manœuvring in front of the crowd, he suddenly pulled out from his waistcoat a paper covered with hieroglyphics which he said was from the gods and telling them that the *ta tsiu* must be held. So upon this another meeting was convened in order to convince the officials that the celebration should not be prohibited, but the officials were obdurate and eventually gained the day." Mr. Burkwall then proceeded to relate another interesting story concern a similar festivity which, in spite of the official declaration, was held at a place some 15 miles beyond Pingnam. When he arrived there he heard that a Taoist priest had been cangued for disobeying the official order and persisting in holding the *ta tsiu* celebration in spite of the proclamation. For this act the man was cangued for the night and the next day relieved of the load around his neck.

It appears that throughout the whole of the prefecture of Tam Chow the *ta tsiu* celebration is absolutely prohibited the order having been in force just prior to the trouble at Lien-chau, although it is in no way connected with that tragedy.

FOREIGNERS AND OFFICIALS.

Throughout the route taken by Mr. Burkwall this prohibition appears to have greatly incensed the people who are indirectly incensed against the foreigners as having influence over the officials and bringing such a measure to pass. Consequently, wherever he went, Mr. Burkwall was met with the remark, "This is what you people are doing, you and your books." This is one important point in connection with the establishment of *haktongs* or new schools of Western learning. For these institutions there is no money provided, and in the city of Tam Chow in order to meet the requirements the officials selected some of the largest and wealthiest temples and raised them to the ground so that new and modern schools might be erected in their place. The work of destruction was carried out with the utmost expedition, students coming forward and tearing down the idols when the workmen showed their unwillingness to meddle with the joss. Soon the old temples were transformed into schools for Western learning. Many of such temples, elsewhere, which at one time witnessed the burning of the joss and the sale of wonderful sticks and papers were visited by my informant. This, in conjunction with the prohibition of the *ta tsiu* celebration, has greatly incensed the people against the foreigners and the native Christians. At some places the remark was heard: "Have you come here to do this business," while at others the people spoke openly of violence towards the officials if they enforced the proclamation. Throughout the whole of his journey a distinctly anti-foreign feeling was noticeable and his men wanted to turn back on several occasions. In fact, Mr. Burkwall has never before made such a discouraging trip either in China or Korea and he has travelled extensively in both countries.

EVIDENCE OF BOYCOTT.

The boycott was in evidence throughout the district and while there was little in the way of agitation the mere mention of America sufficed to show that the people were not unaware of the movement. At Liuchow the merchants were well posted in this direction and stated that, whether on account of the boycott or not, the native customs were refusing to pass American goods. Placards were freely posted in the city, and everywhere there was evidence of a distinctly anti-foreign feeling.

A LIUCHOW STORY.

It was on the 9th November that Mr. Burkwall arrived at Liuchow after a dreary tramp across country, desolate and dry, devoid of villages and scarcely exhibiting any sign of life. It is this part of the province that was so infested by robbers last year and the year before, and it may be recalled that in the summer of 1904 the city of Liuchow itself was taken by them, or, as it was reported at the time, by a band of the Kwangsi rebels. The tale told by the people is different to that already related. It is said that for some two or three days previous there had been an idol procession in the city, and on the fourth day bands of robbers posted themselves both inside and outside of the city, and when they marched through the streets the people thought that it was some part of the celebration and paid no heed to the [illegible]rs so that within a very short time the inhabitants were butchered right and left. It is said that at the time the local official was having his head shaved, and immediately he saw the robber band disguised himself as a water carrier and got away, and when the bandits left he returned to the city and resumed his magisterial duties. The city itself has probably about 50,000 people, is in telegraphic communication with Canton, and has a flourishing trade. It was only when Mr. Burkwall arrived there that he was able to dispose of any of his books. He found a telegram awaiting him informing him of the Lien-chau affair and ordering him to return immediately. As everyone knows telegrams are not treated with the same privacy that characterises wires in other countries, and it was not surprising to find that the contents were already public property by the time that Mr. Burkwall arrived. The people said that the Kwangtung foreigners had been driven from the province and some had come in their flight as far as Liuchow. Fortunately for him two Englishmen has passed by two days previous and the people believed that the telegram was for them, with the result that when Mr. Burkwall arrived the wire was not centred on him so much as it has been on the two Englishmen. But when the message reached him the news soon leaked out and although it had little effect on the people, the officials treated him most rudely. They received his card but abstained from following on the strict lines of common courtesy by returning their own. They said the foreigner would have to look after himself, and they would have nothing to do with him. This he attributed more to the telegram than to anything else.

BOYCOTT LITERATURE.

The bulk of the population of Liuchow is Cantonese, so that Mr. Burkwall had no difficulty in being understood, and hearing from them their views on the topics of the day. Questioned more directly concerning the boycott, Mr. Burkwall said that as far as he could learn in Liuchow it did not have the direct effect of agitating the people, but was most assuredly influencing them everywhere against foreigners and everything foreign. Boycott literature is being circulated everywhere, the people are taking the native papers of Canton and Hongkong, which are filled with news of the movement, and whole editions of journals from the Kwangtung capital are being brought up and freely circulated, while placards appear in every street. In opening a conversation the people talk of America, declare that the country is unjust, and proceed to direct their remarks against foreigners in general. "America is after our money; they bring their goods over here and take away our money. Why should we buy their stuff?" Then they apply the remark to all foreign countries and so the anti-foreign feeling is engendered.

THE DISTURBING FACTORS.

Asked to enumerate some of the influences that are at work in bringing about such an undesirable condition of affairs, Mr. Burkwall pointed out that the temple desecration, the prohibition of the *ta tsiu* and the circulation of inflammatory papers are factors that have worked a very strong feeling in Kwangsi against the foreigner. This he has gathered from close observation not only in the city of Liuchau but throughout various sections of the Province.

RADICAL CHANGES IN KWANGSI.

The official in charge of education, a prefect by the name of Chong, has instituted radical changes in many parts of Kwangsi. Temples have been torn down to give place to schools, signboards have been raised from the streets in order to provide better facilities for burden bearers; nuisances have been removed where for centuries they have been allowed to exist, and in many other directions reforms have been instituted. All this, of course, is bound to re-act sooner or later. The people are informed that the triennial examinations have been discontinued and new schools for Western learning must be opened up. But the rub comes in the finding of money for continuing the institutions. Hence the raising of temples, which in many instances contain articles of value and are surrounded by land from which revenue is derived. At one place there was a temple overlooking two dangerous rapids and when this was raised to the ground the natives said: "How can we live? Here was a temple which was guarding these rapids over which we constantly have to pass, and now it is pulled down. What is our hope now?" All this, of course, must militate against the peace of the Province. The students of the new learning are developing a very democratic spirit. No matter what crops up they are united. If there is a teacher in any of the schools who is displeasing to the pupils the young fellows strike and if the man is not removed they will refuse to attend the school. In this way several teachers have been removed from Tam-chau. At one place, called Nauting, an instructor is engaged who at one time was at Canton in the Viceroy's school. Hearing that Mr. Burkwall was in the "market" he sent him an invitation to spend the evening with him. In the course of the conversation, which dealt largely with education, Mr. Burkwall mentioned the [illegible]s he had had on his journey and told a friend that the people were blaming the foreigners for the prohibition of the *ta tsiu*, the tearing down of the temples and so on. One of the young men present immediately jumped up, filled with fire, and rolling up his sleeves, said, "We are longing for a chance at the temples. We will not hesitate." This is the feeling which is marking the people of these new schools, who are anxious to demolish the old and build up the new.

The majority of the people cannot grasp this great change and are preparing to resist it by incensing the populace against the foreigner. An Imperial mail carrier who accompanied Mr. Burkwall a part of the way home said that it was the missionaries and the native converts who were tearing down the temples and as the officials had all entered the Western Church and approved of the action matters had come to a serious head. At some places the officials are keeping in close touch with the foreigners and are watching the trend of events and keeping matters well in hand. Nevertheless Mr. Burkwall does not advise anyone to undertake any extensive travelling in Kwangsi at present, for, although the situation is not alarming the talk is very vile. Had he liked he could have started riots galore in the course of his trip, as at nearly every town the people walked up to him and hissed in his face "shat, shat," or "kill, kill." He would not say that the situation was any worse in Kwangsi than it is in Kwangtung, for once in the country the same feeling is exhibited in many parts of the Two Kwangs. As far as he is personally concerned he would not fear to travel into any part of the province, because with a knowledge of the language and moving constantly along there is not much fear of being molested. At the same time the same feeling of unrest is present, and the same undercurrent of ill will is manifested, and cannot be mistaken. What the outcome of all this will be no one can say, yet Mr. Burkwall is not alone in an expression of opinion that trouble must surely result from the ignorance of the people in ascribing to foreigners the destruction of their temples and the prohibition of some of their most important festivals.

ACTIVITY AT THE DOCKS.

A SMART PIECE OF WORKMANSHIP.

18th inst.

The staff of the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company at Kowloon are determined that the reputation they have gained in the past for speedy repairs combined with first-class workmanship shall not be allowed to diminish. An excellent example of what can be done in the way of smartness was furnished on Saturday in the docking and cleaning of the German steamship *Aragonia*, a vessel of 5,198 tons. On Saturday forenoon H.M.S. torpedo boat destroyers *Virago* and *Whitting* left No. 1 Dock, and the *Aragonia* replaced them on the blocks at 3 o'clock in the afternoon. Between that time and 11.30 on Sunday forenoon the bottom of this large liner had been scraped, two coats of paint put on, and by 12.20 p.m. she had been towed out to her anchorage in the harbour by the *Robert Cook*. This is one of the smartest pieces of work which has been accomplished by the Dock staff for some time. When the *Aragonia* had left the "Admiralty" (or No. 1) Dock, the powerful pumping engines were set at work and early in the afternoon the Docks were cleared of water. The object of this celerity was to permit of the inspection of the dock blocks, a duty enjoined on the naval authorities by His Majesty's Naval Regulations. H.M.S. *Diadem*, the flagship on the China station, was docked at 2 o'clock this afternoon, and we are informed that within the next 18 days the four first-class cruisers and probably the two second-class cruisers, which are now in the North, will be docked at Kowloon. While on a tour over the yards yesterday, our representative observed that the No. 2 Docks was occupied by the German steamship *Bangkok*, which was receiving her last coat of paint, and was taking in fresh water for her boilers; preparatory to leaving the dock. H.M.S. torpedo boat destroyer *Otter* was undergoing a general overhaul; the twin screw propellers had been removed and the speedy little warship looked dismantled and awry; but once the propellers have been examined and replaced, the sides painted, and the temporary repair fittings cast off, the *Otter* will look as before, as dangerous and threatening as the animal after which she is named. The Indo-China Steam Navigation Company's *Laisang* of 3,460 tons was lying alongside, right opposite the shear-legs. She is undergoing an extensive overhaul, having cabins erected and other accommodation, necessary for the Eastern service, provided by the Dock staff. Work at the shipyard generally, and particularly in the carpenters' department, appeared to be brisk, although there was nothing of an extensive character in progress, such as the removal and replacing of dented plates, or other works resulting from strandings or collisions. Several life-boats for sea-going ships were in course of construction and they all bore the stamp of that first-class workmanship for which our local docks have won their reputation. It may be added that the *Aragonia* is a big flour-carrier under charter to the Portland and Asiatic Steamship Company, trading between Portland (Oregon) and Hongkong.

PERSECUTING THE CHRISTIANS

IN SOUTH CHINA.

[*From a Correspondent.*]

Canton, 15th December.

Another instance of the anti-Christian feeling in South China has just come to light and serves to illustrate the apathy of the officials in dealing with such serious outbreaks. It appears that some few weeks ago the Christians in the village of Ngo Tsun, which is situated about 35 miles from Canton, assembled in their little church for worship, and just before the services were brought to a close the congregation was surprised by the rattle of bullets on the tiled roof, and the falling of lead pellets and broken tiles. The women became greatly excited and huddled together in a corner, and such confusion followed that the elder who was conducting the service concluded the worship and dismissed the congregation.

This disturbance is the outcome of a long series of persecutions on the part of a neighbouring village held by the Chun clan. It is some two years since the American Presbyterian Mission opened a chapel there, and work had not been in progress for more than a month when the Chun clan posted placards in the neighbourhood and throughout the village, stating "Now that you have got a chapel you need not feel so proud about it," or words to that effect. They added that the Chuns would show them what they intended doing as they were going to smash the chapel to pieces and kill every Christian in the place. The Chun village is notorious for its bad characters, as many of the people are robbers and not a few have prices on their heads. The matter was reported to the officials, but nothing was done, and it appears that it was with the greatest difficulty that the American Consul in Canton could get even a proclamation issued stating that the people must not molest the Christians in their worship. Beyond this nothing further resulted. The leaders in the business were not arrested or punished, with the result that in the village and by the way, the Christians were systematically looted, their mulberry shrubs were cut and even their lands claimed. Many months ago a band of these roughs rushed into the village smashed the church and finally fired the building. The attention of the officials was called to this affair. Nothing, however, resulted, and when the Viceroy was pressed to take action the local magistrate was called upon to consult with the missionary in charge. The matter was discussed at length in all its bearings, and at the request of the official the Mission agreed to waive all claims to indemnity and compensation of any kind for the distruction of the chapel and the looting of the Christians. On his part he promised to set up proper land marks in the field surrounding the missionary land, and as there was some native property there he agreed to sell it to the Ngo Tsun people at a nominal price, and in that way they would receive compensation and there would be no bitter feeling stirred up. To this course the mission consented and the Viceroy eventually gave his consent to the proposals. On the 7th November last the Shun Tak magistrate went over and measured the land and carried out the instructions of the Viceroy. Soon after this was fixed up, the Chun people turned out again and fired on the building as described above. This they did as they were determined that the Christians should be driven out of that village, and according to their statements they did not intend to pay any regard to the Viceroy's acts or to the order of the local officials.

This is the present state of affairs, and illustrates the fact that in many such cases the guilty parties remain unpunished and matters are allowed to continue until something serious occurs. This latest move has been reported to the authorities and the outcome is awaited with interest.

A PEKING report, printed in the *N. C. D. News*, says that Mr. Pokotiloff has utterly failed to obtain information about the Manchuria negotiations. He has been trying to extract news from a concubine of Prince Ching.

WANCHAI WATER SUPPLY.

A CORRESPONDENT'S GRIEVANCE.

19th inst.

A correspondent, who evidently feels very keenly on the subject, writes concerning the water supply in the Wanchai district. He makes it clear that he has no fault to find with the proposal of the Director of Public Works to restrict the supply to certain hours of the day. His objection is that even at present with a full allowance the supply is inadequate. There is not sufficient force, he states, to raise the water to the level of Son Wa Fong, St. Francis Street, or at least above the ground floor of the houses in that locality. Since Friday last he and his family have been obliged to forego the matutinal bath, and, indeed the supply for culinary purposes is so meagre that he has had to hire coolies to carry water from Queen's Road. As he remarks: "I do not complain of the restricted supply, but I do object when I find that the force of water is insufficient to raise it above the ground floor of houses in Son Wa Fong." The least that the Public Works Department could do, he argues, is to provide a sufficient force of water during the hours when the supply is turned on, so that all may get enough of the "God-given fluid," as he calls it. For four days our correspondent has been unable to get a bath. On Sunday he had to restrict himself to one cup of coffee, which is not nearly enough liquid refreshment for any able-bodied man. And if he had not been careful to fill up the filter on the preceding evening he might not have had even a single cup of the liquid that cheers but does not inebriate. He adds pathetically that he has eight mouths suffering from the want of water and he has to stand by helpless while they thirst. He cannot afford, he says, even if he had the inclination, to quench their thirst with beer or wines. In view of this appeal, perhaps the Director of Public Works will devise means to provide the people of Wanchai—for he asserts that his is not a solitary case—with a sufficiency of water, so that the residents in that district may be able to have a bath at least every other morning and a plethora of cups of coffee on Sundays. The spectacle of a citizen with eight mouths crying for water should appeal to the stoniest heart, and we trust that our correspondent's grievance will be remedied as soon as possible.

THE HONGKONG VOLUNTEER RESERVE ASSOCIATION.

19th inst.

A large number of members attended the 200 yards range at King's Park on Saturday and Sunday, the 16th and 17th inst. and some very good shooting was done.

The principal scores are as follows:—J. J. Stubbings 70, Dr. W. B. A. Moore 70, C. Glover 70, J. C. Gow 69, E. Rogers 69, W. R. Mc. D. Parr 69, T. P. Cochrane 69, G. H. May 68, C. H. W. Kew 68, J. Rankin 67, G. H. Wakeman 66, W. D. Braidwood 66, Dr. Macfarlane 66, H. R. Phelps 65, J. A. Lyon 65, E. W. Terrey 65, L. Gibbs 65, A. H. Tyack 65, F. D. Goddard 65, A. P. Nobbs 65, J. C. Peter 64, W. L. Carter 64, P. L. Miller 64, W. G. Winterburn 64, G. Richardson 64, P. Philpotts 63, A. Brown 63, H. W. Fraser 63, A. G. Newington 63, G. K. Haxton 63, A. J. Williams 63, A. Jenkins 62, D. Tollan 62, R. H. King 62, G. A. Hastings 62, W. T. Hoskin 62, S. H. Michael 62, J. S. Lewington 61, J. McCubbin 61, J. R. Michael 61, J. N. Jones 61, Captain Barnes Lawrence 61, C. J. Allen 60, C. E. H. Benvis 60, G. L. Duncan 60, S. A. Jospeh, 59, Wm. Goodfellow 59, J. McInnes 59, E. A. Irving 59, T. Gray Scott 59, H. E. Goldsmith 59, A. B. Rouse 58, H. Sykes 58, Hon. W. Chatham 57, T. K. Dealy 57, C. H. Gale 55, J. Owen Hughes 55, W. B. Boyce 54, Dr. E. Evan Jones 54, E. J. Grist 54, M. W. Slade 53, E. J. Moses 53, Hon. G. Stewart 53, E. W. Dawson 52, A. R. Lowe 52, H. Pinckney 52, W. D. Sutton 50, J. Hutchings 50.

On the 16th inst. the "Pool" was won by Mr. J. J. Stubbings with a total of 70 and on 17th inst. it was secured by Mr. E. Rogers with a total of 69.

HONGKONG OPTICIANS.

A CHANGE OF SITE.

19th inst.

The well-known firm of opticians, of which Mr. N. Lazarus is the proprietor—a firm known throughout the length and breadth of the East—has changed its Hongkong premises from D'Aguilar Street to 3 Pedder's Street. In a place like Hongkong, where there are so many varying lights to affect the eyesight, it is important that those suffering from defective vision should have the opportunity of consulting a qualified optician on the subject. The multitude of quacks who attempt to delude the unwary into buying glasses which fit "approximately" is legion. But Mr. A. S. Tuxford, the manager of the Hongkong establishment of Mr. N. Lazarus, is a certificated optician, so that patients are assured of sound diagnosis when they apply for guidance. In Pedder's Street, the establishment is in the very centre of business. There are special rooms for the testing of eyes, for grinding lenses, testing with the retinoscope, etc. It may be stated that all the lenses ground at Mr. Lazarus' place are guaranteed for a year, and they are changed free of charge if the occasion should be considered necessary within that period. Lenses are ground to any prescription. There is a fine display of binoculars and all the articles usually found in an optician's establishment. The proprietor may expect a marked increase of business during the coming year, due not merely to the change of site but also in no small degree to the ability and genial manners of the manager and assistants.

MASONIC.

19th inst.

Once again the Masonic Hall, Zetland Street, was *en fête* last night, the occasion this time being the installation of Bro. C. Flitock as Worshipful Master of the Lodge Eastern Scotia, No. 923 S. C. for the ensuing year, who appointed his officers as follows:—I.P.M. Wor. Bro. J. Graham; S.M. Wor. Bro. W. C. Jack; S.W. Bro. A. Ritchie; J.W. Bro. J. McGlashan; Chaplain, Bro. W. Stewart; S.D. Bro. Dang Chee; J.D. Bro. J. Cheiland; Secretary, Wor. Bro. H. Horley; D. of C. Bro. S. Smith; D.M. Wor. Bro. H. H. Bridges; Steward, Pro. R. M. Matthrey, and Bro. J. J. Sibbit; Treasurer, Wor. Bro. C. E. Facken; Organist, Bro. R. Wilson; I.G. Bro. J. M. Ramsey, and Tyler, Bro. F. Milne.

After the installation ceremony, which was conducted by P.G.M. Jordan, Scottish Constitution, an adjournment was made to the ball-room where an excellent banquet was served to some 150 guests, and visitors, the usual toasts following, interspersed with songs and instrumental solos by members and visiting members. The toast list having been completed a very enjoyable informal "smoker" became the order of the night's doing, to which many well-known masonic amateurs contributed their always well-received quota, the proceedings terminating at a very advanced hour of the morning.

THE OUTBREAK AT THE MIXED COURT.

The following editorial appeared in the *N. C. D. News* of the 14th inst.:—

The letters which the Municipal Council publishes this morning and which will be found in another column show the position taken by the then Senior Consul and the Taotai in reference to the detention of Chinese female prisoners. The Consular Body having come to the conclusion that the Mixed Court cells were entirely unfit for women, decided, when a proper women's ward was built by the Council, that Chinese female prisoners should be sent there; but the Taotai seems to have continued his opposition to this course, in ordering which the Consular Body were actuated by motives of humanity, and his opposition culminated in the fracas which occurred at the Mixed Court on Friday. We published yesterday the Chinese view of the occurrence, and note that a very similar statement appeared in yesterday's "Nanfangpao." We publish to-day a letter signed "Foreign Resident" deprecating the course pursued by the police, and commending Taotai Yuan's speech, which really means: "I regret that I have not been more obstructive in the past, but I will mend my ways." We also publish this morning another letter from a Chinese correspondent, signed "Fair Play," who says that he was an eye-witness of the fracas. We need hardly say that we have no sympathy with "Foreign Resident." He begs the question entirely in saying that the servants of the Council assaulted the Mixed Court, the fracas in fact having been begun by one of the runners, and his statement that the treaty rights of Chinese in Shanghai have by that assault been disgracefully and brutally trampled upon is a palpable exaggeration, even if he were correct in his statement of fact. "Fair Play" takes an almost equally exaggerated view when he writes that "we do not want that under the pretence of protection the Police can enter our houses, wrongly arrest our women, our sisters and daughters, and detain them in their custody." Charges of this kind against the police, against whom Chinese women, and men also, have their remedy if they are wrongly arrested, are entirely beside the present matter, and it would almost seem as if they were introduced to confuse and obscure the real question. What that is, is sufficiently explained in the correspondence published by the Chamber of Commerce. Seeing the intention of the magistrate and the assistant magistrate to oppose the assessor's order at all costs, we are not at all inclined to believe without better evidence that the police used unnecessary force. The fact is that things would go much more smoothly if the international Mixed Court were organised on the same lines as the French Mixed Court. It is the consideration shown to the magistrates on this side that enables them to provoke such incidents as that of Friday.

We believe it will be found when the passions of the moment cool down among the Chinese that a great factor in arousing them has been the dread the Chinese have of the Sikh police and the Sikh gaolers. It would, we believe, be useful if a joint inquiry were held into this question, and pains were taken to prove to the Chinese that no unnecessary harshness is practised towards prisoners in the municipal gaol. We believe that there are no complaints of the foreign warders; but there are complaints, which may be entirely unfounded, of the Indian warders, and it would be well to reassure the Chinese on this point. To a large number of Chinese the strict discipline and personal cleanliness enforced in the municipal gaol are more irksome than what seem to us the horrors of Chinese prisons.

These points, however, do not affect the main point which is that this opposition of the Mixed Court, which is understood to come from the Taotai and the Viceroy—and this understanding is confirmed by the Taotai's speech quoted by "Foreign Resident,"—is part of a long-matured design to curtail the rights assumed by foreigners within Settlement limits. In this design the high officials are supported by "Young China," but on very different grounds, as is ex; lained by our Soochow correspondent, "A Citizen of the U. S. A." Writing from the capital of the province, he tells us that the object of "Young China" is to embroil the Chinese Government with Foreign Powers, in the hope that in another Boxer uprising the Manchu dynasty will find its grave, and the Chinese will realise their republican aspirations. Whether our correspondent overstates the case or not we are not prepared to say; but his letter emphasises the warning given to the Government when the boycott agitation became serious; that the Government would do well to use all its power to crush the boycott, as its certain tendency was to become anti-dynastic and anti-foreign. By its half-hearted condemnation of the boycott in the south, the Chinese Government is undermining its own foundation, though it does not seem to have the ability to grasp this fact. Indications of the growth of anti-foreign feeling come in from many sides, and this feeling seems to be regarded with indifference by the Government; it would be well for the Government to assure itself, if it can, that this feeling is not anti-dynastic as well.

It will have been noticed that under the circumstances our authorities have thought it wise to detain H.M.S. *Bonaventure* for the present, although her relief, the *Astræa*, has arrived; and the decision is undoubtedly a wise one, and the foreign public will feel great satisfaction if both these fine cruisers remain off the Bund for the present. With an uncontrolled native Press, and Leagues of Patriots of the noisy kind holding monster meetings at tea-gardens and elsewhere, no-one can say that precautions are superfluous. That the present excitement in Shanghai will die away very soon, we are sure, and the normal relations between Chinese and foreigners in Shanghai be resumed; but permanent security demands constant vigilance.

MOB LAW.

THE MIXED COURT FRACAS.

The *N. C. D. News*, of 15th instant, says:—

The collective wisdom of the Diplomatic Body at Peking, unmindful of the experience of more than sixty years, has decided, on the demand of the Waiwupu, to give way to Chinese popular clamour, and has instructed the Consular Body here to order the Municipal Council to release the Chinese lady remanded at the Mixed Court on the charge of kidnapping. Excuses are made on the ground that as no Mixed Court is sitting, it was unfair to keep an innocent lady in custody without any opportunity of proving her innocence; but the Taotai, who is responsible for her cruel condition by his refusal to allow the Mixed Court to sit, and the Canton guild, and all the noisy patriots of Shanghai under the guidance of the very men who organised and direct the boycott here, are convinced of her innocence, and this is enough for the Waiwupu and the Diplomatic Body. It must be repeated that the prisoner now happily released, and we do not say that she is not perfectly innocent, was arrested on a warrant signed by the Mixed Court magistrate, and was remanded to the cells by the Mixed Court magistrate, and, if released, it should have been by the Court under whose warrant she was arrested. But the boycott leaders succeeded in making the arrest and remand entirely overshadow the real question, which is, whether female prisoners are to be detained, as decided by the Consular Body, in the Municipal gaol, or, as decided by the Taotai, in the Mixed Court. The women's ward in the municipal gaol was built on the suggestion of the Mixed Court assessors, who were actuated entirely by motives of humanity, as Dr. Knappe, the ex-Senior Consul, pointed out; but if our Chinese fellow-residents prefer that their women, their sisters, and their daughters should be handed over to the charge of the Mixed Court runners, we do not suppose that the Council have any desire to press the point. All these points have been sedulously ignored by the native Press in their persistent endeavour to stir up the anti-foreign agitation that has so far been successful, and the reader of the native papers would imagine that the whole affair was a conspiracy on the part of the British assessor and the Municipal Council to "ride roughshod" over our Chinese fellow-residents. This view of this affair has been evidently accepted by the Waiwupu, who have taken as accurate the ex parte telegrams sent to Peking by the Taotai and the various native bodies who have been agitating here since last Friday, and they have evidently succeeded in impressing this view on the Diplomatic Body. The statement that the fracas on Friday at the Mixed Court was originated by the Police is not supported by any evidence; what evidence there is, in fact, goes to show that the tumult was begun by one of the magistrate's runners; and there is no question that the whole of the agitation in Shanghai was started and has been encouraged by the promoters of the boycott movement; and in giving way, as the Diplomatic Body have done, to the Waiwupu in this, which is in itself an insignificant matter, they have strengthened the anti-foreign movement of which the boycott is a branch.

All foreigners here, except a few who, like the eel-fishermen described by Aristophanes get their profit by stirring up the mud, must deeply regret the whole trouble, and our numerous peaceable and law-abiding Chinese fellow-residents will, we fear, have reason too to regret it before long. We have, as we have stated before, a very high respect for Mr. Kuan, the Mixed Court magistrate, who has done his best during his tenure of the post, to raise the tone of the Court, to do strict justice, and to control his runners, and we acquit him personally of any intention to bring about the present deadlock. No one who knows the British Assessor would charge him with being a firebrand; but the King boys are much too young and inexperienced, and too wanting in self-control, to be, one of them assistant magistrate, and the other a sort of deputy assistant, is obvious; but their sister is married to the Taotai's son.

The relations between foreigners and Chinese in the Settlements have gone on with almost perfect harmony for some sixty years, and it is a great pity that this harmony should be interrupted now over a question of no real importance whatever. But Young China, its head turned by the result of indigestion of the Western learning it has acquired, and believing itself fully competent at once to lead its country along the path that Japan has trodden so bravely, has so far impressed its views and aspirations on the country that it wants to do away instantly, or as instantly as possible, with such checks as extra-territoriality and foreign Settlements. No one has sympathised more heartily than we have with the movement throughout China in favour of the introduction of Western knowledge and civilisation, but before extra-territoriality can be abolished, and their privileges be removed from the foreign Settlements and concessions, China must pass through the probation to which Japan devoted herself, and it is hard to see where in China are the Itos and Inouyes, and the other statesmen who led Japan into the promised land.

BRUNEI.

BRITAIN'S NEW POSSESSION.

The taking over of Brunei by the Imperial Government, as a dependency of Lubuan, it may be presumed, puts an end to what has been for long a subject of pretty obvious rival ambition between British North Borneo and Sarawak, says the *Singapore Free Press*. That was, as some will remember, made plain in connection with the affair of Pangeran Shahbander on the Padas River, a matter of seventeen or eighteen years ago. Brunei through long centuries of decline from its former ancient importance, had lapsed into an utterly insignificant "No Man's Land," a sort of sordid Alsatia, whose Sultan and people lived in a state of pristine squalour. The epidemic of small-pox that decimated Brunei exhibited the helplessness of the inhabitants in the face of the penalty of a chronic disregard for anything like sanitary decency, and it was only by the hard work of a medical expedition from Singapore that Brunei, or what was left of it, was rescued from wholesale destruction. Now that Labuan has again reverted to the direct supervision of the Colonial Office through the Straits Government it was inevitable that Brunei should follow. And this solution of the situation is the best possible, for it removes an always possible cause of trouble from Sarawak and British North Borneo, on whose frontiers the tribes of this derelict *enclave* of Brunei might at any time cause annoyance. From the Imperial point of view, again, it is proper that so fine a bay as that of Brunei, flanked on the west by Muara and its coal mines, should fall under direct British jurisdiction. The utility of Brunei Bay from a naval point of view has been repeatedly urged, and it is just as well that by establishing a clear title to its possession we remove what might have proved a temptation to some foreign naval power to endeavour acquire a footing on that capacious bay. The British taking over of Brunei extinguishes the last remnant of what might have been a considerable territory on the island of Borneo. For many reasons, not the least for the good government of Brunei and the welfare and happiness of its people, the change just noted is the best thing that could have happened. The only wonder is that it did not come to pass long ago.

A MONEY order exchange will be established from 1st January next, between Hongkong and Macao. The commission chargeable at the Macao Post Office will, we understand, be at the rate of one per cent. of the value of the remittance.

ANG Siang Bee, a Chinese Baba, some time ago left Singapore for Saigon. There he obtained employment as a bill collector apparently without security. On a certain day he was sent out to collect; he gathered in $11,000 roundly and disappeared. That evening a steamer left that port for Singapore; he went in her. After a while he was arrested in Singapore. He engaged Mr. Farrer Baynes. Mr. Sproule had adjournments hoping to receive identification papers. On Saturday, the man was again brought up. Mr. Sproule said these papers had not arrived, and he thought the man should be discharged, especially as his counsel was prepared to prove him a British subject. He was discharged. The man's story is to the effect that he did collect the money, but that it was stolen from him and, in his fright, he went on board the steamer and travelled to Singapore.

KOWLOON—CANTON.

TRADE DURING 1904.

CUSTOMS OFFICIALS' EPITOME OF OPINION.

18th inst.

Nothing is more conducive to the advancement of a nation than trade prosperity, for it allows the mind of the people to be withdrawn from the daily grind and struggle for bare existence. The rapid strides which China has recently made in the way of presenting a united front to the world—however the results of that movement may be condemned by those directly affected—might be taken as an evidence of the general prosperity which has attended that country of late years. Another evidence is to be found in the desire, if not the ability, of the gentry to undertake works of construction, particularly railway schemes, without soliciting outside financial aid. The best proof that China as a whole, during the better part of last year at least, was in a prosperous condition is obtained from the trade reports of the officers of the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs stationed at the various ports. The second volume of the Returns of Trade and Trade Reports for 1904 is now before us, and it is a most interesting document. The Commissioners and Acting Commissioners' reports which are incorporated in this bulky volume of over a thousand pages are full of information. Happily these gentlemen of the Chinese Customs are gifted one and all with a peculiarly felicitous style; they do not attempt the academic or long-winded method which as often as not conceals the real meaning of the writer. They are chatty, anecdotal, speculative, informative, in a word meaty. They can juggle with figures in the most charming manner, making obscure facts clear, and explaining difficult points in a way which is bound to secure the admiration of every writer who has ever had to deal with statistics.

OPTIMISTIC CUSTOMS OFFICERS.

Moreover, the Customs officials are optimistic. One writer congratulates the district over which he reigns on the fact that "it was not visited by a single typhoon." Another begins with the remark that despite adverse conditions, "piracy, banditti and diversion of trade" an improvement has taken place. A third remarks that notwithstanding "disastrous floods in the richest part of this district and fluctuations in exchange," the selling of lottery tickets and other evils, the district's trade proved fairly satisfactory. But enough examples have been given to show that the officials are in thorough sympathy with the Customs districts over which they preside. They occupy the position of foster-parents and when their charge grows a little fatter and weighs a pound or two more than it did in the previous year they wax enthusiastic. Should there be a falling off they are not cast down; they search about for the cause and are as breezily confident as ever that the lapse is only of a temporary character.

EFFECTS OF THE WAR.

A glance at the majority of reports shows that the trade of the southern ports of China in 1904 was on the whole satisfactory. In a few rare cases is there a pronounced decline all round; the export and import of individual articles have dwindled, perhaps, but that has been compensated for by the increase in other articles exported or imported. Most of the Commissioners whose reports appear in this volume inveigh against the evils attending a fluctuating dollar. Only in a very few cases do they refer to the war, as a debilitating agent. One of these is Mr. P. M. by de Galembert, Deputy Commissioner of Customs in charge of Amoy. Mr. de Galembert says—"It could not be expected that with one of the most bloody wars ever fought at the very door of China, nay, in the very cradle of the dynasty actually ruling the empire, trade would be carried on undisturbed; and though Amoy is up to the present far away from the fighting sphere its trade and revenue have felt the evil consequences of the Russo-Japanese war in Manchuria." Mr. Frank Smith, the Acting Commissioner of Customs at Swatow, simply speaks of "the war in the North" as an adverse circumstance. The Acting Commissioner of Customs at Kowloon, Mr. W. R. McD. Parr remarks: "A harassing feeling of uncertainty entering into all commercial transactions as a result of the war between Russia and Japan," etc., are responsible for anything but a brisk trade. In Foochow, "Even the Manchurian war—unlike what would be the case in other parts of the world under like circumstances—has not caused much excitement, still less has it affected business or prices among the millions of Northern Fukhien." While of Ningpo the Commissioner who writes simply says: "Local conditions have not been affected by the war in the North." With these exceptions there are no other references, so far as we can see after a hasty examination of the various reports, to the war as a factor in the distribution of products.

PIRATES AND BANDITTI.

Again and again the Customs officials speak of the numerous piracies that occur. We have dealt with this subject editorially on a former occasion and quoted some of the opinions of the Commissioners of Customs on the subject. But reading through this budget of reports one would think we were living in the middle ages of Europe. Pirates, bandits, robbers and thieves abound in these pages. Never a page but has its pirate. It reminds one of the days when the Norsemen swept down on the coasts of Britain and penetrated as far south as Italy. Or better still it recalls the tales of the Barbary pirates, with this difference that their Chinese emulators do not make captives but rely on terrorism to effect their object, which is merely—in this connection "merely" is a rather nice word—to ransack the cargo of the junks they fall across. It is nevertheless, [illegible] that in the "twentieth century the Chinese coast should be infested with pirates that piracy should be rampant from one end of the coast line to the other, and that no effort should be made by the Chinese Government to root them out. At the very gates of Hongkong, in the Canton district, pirates are reaping apparently as rich a harvest as ever they did before a fast steaming gunboat was known. We have previously dilated on this subject so that with this reference to one of the outstanding features which disgrace the Chinese Empire we will pass on.

WESTERNISED FUKHIENESE.

As a rule, the official as an official, is generally absent from the pages of the Trade Reports of the Southern Ports. But there is one choice example of what may be described as the real official spirit which we cannot pass by. It occurs in Mr. de Galembert's report on Amoy. He is speaking of the importation of foreign goods and states that the disbursements for the purchase of Foreign Imports (Hk. Tls. 9,062,746) exceeded the receipts for the sale of Foreign Exports (Hk. Tls. 2,018,690) by Hk. Tls. 18,000,000. Then he goes on: "This would suggest a dangerous draining of the wealth of this part of the province were it not possible to account for it otherwise. It is presumed, however, that a great part of this excess is covered by capital brought from abroad by returning emigrants and colonists. Amoy and its surrounding districts are composed of an essentially emigrating population; slight families out of ten have some of their members who either have been or are still abroad earning salaries or engaged in trade and remitting money regularly to their homes. They all return sooner or later, not only with their wealth, but with a pronounced taste for Western ways and luxuries. Many of them adopt foreign fabrics for their clothing, live in a quasi-foreign style and sometimes even in semi-foreign houses. It is from these comparatively wealthy people, who form a numerous class and are scattered throughout the southern part of Fuhkien that the Amoy foreign-ware merchants draw their customers, for whom they import large quantities of foreign goods." And now comes the choice reflection of the official mind. "It is an open question," he says, meditatively, "whether it would not be wiser to invest in local mines and industries the millions which are spent in the purchase of manufactured Western luxuries, which, while doubtless affording a transitory increase of comfort to the buyers, represent a dead loss to the national wealth." But surely these evidences of a higher civilisation, these attempts to follow Western ways and customs, are valuable object-lessons to the people who have never left their homes to travel among strangers. Surely they make for advancement, and if they do so the cost borne by those, who, presumably, are able to afford it, is returned to the country in the shape of higher ideals and higher standards of life and a better realisation of Western habits. If China is to be reformed from within who could be better pioneers than those sturdy democrats who refuse to revert to thatched huts and mud-heaps after experiencing the benefits of civilised life as lived by the foreigner; and prefer foreign fabrics for their clothing a quasi-foreign mode of existence, and semi-foreign-houses, to the conditions under which they were reared and acquiesced in until their eyes were opened? These are the real reformers of a country, and not the magnificent scholars who return from abroad, chock-full of knowledge and importance, to hob-nob with the great and noble ones of the Empire.

THE "HOPPO" OF CANTON.

Coming now to deal with the separate reports, we naturally turn to that presented by Mr. F. J. Mayers, the Acting Commissioner of Customs at Canton. It is an exceptionally interesting document, which is well worth perusal. Mr. Mayers remarks in opening: "From a Customs point of view perhaps the most interesting event of the year has been the abolition of the office of the 'Hoppo,' as the Superintendent of Customs for the province of Kwangtung was usually designated by Europeans. Since the year 1685, the post has always been held by a special Imperial Commissioner, who was charged with the collection of the Customs Revenues, a large proportion of which was devoted to the expenses of the Imperial Court. The hypothecation of the principal sources of Revenue for the service of China's foreign loans has entailed the necessity of reducing expenses, and this, resulting in the abolition of several of the governorships of provinces, has also led to the abolition of the ancient office of "Hoppo." On the 10th December His Excellency Chang En, handed over the seals to His Excellency Chang Jen-chun, Governor of Kwangtung, who, for the present is acting as the Provincial Superintendent of Customs. It is gratifying to be able to record that in his last year of office the "Hoppo" saw the Revenue of the Canton Customs for the first time exceed three million taels." The Commissioner proceeds to refer to the question of piracy—already dealt with—and observes that well informed Chinese are against gambling, for the simple reason that the pirates and brigands are either people ruined by gambling, or desperadoes who prey upon lucky gamblers returning home with their winnings. He adds that "there is one thing certain, that the provincial government would never consent to the suppression of the gambling farms, which are the most important sources of revenue now remaining unhypothecated.

DECREASE AND GAIN.

Mr. Mayers, dealing with the statistics, observes that according to these, "we have the striking anomaly of a decrease, in the trade value amounting to Hk. Tls. $14,312,750 as compared with the previous year's figures, and yet a substantial gain in the revenue collection. The explanation, however, is not far to seek. Exceptionally good crops brought about a material reduction in the importation of grain, which was less than at any time during the past decade, thereby nearly accounting for the whole of the difference referred to. A decreased expenditure on the purchase of food stuffs naturally enough means more funds available for use in other directions, and thus we meet with a great expansion of trade all round. What has further helped to bring about this result was the keen rivalry existing between local foreign firms, who, in order to keep abreast of each other, have come to recognise the necessity of extending and consolidating their connections and establishing themselves on a firmer basis. Thus native merchants are now afforded facilities in the way of credits, banking conveniences and placing of orders which formerly did not exist. Instead of journeying to Hongkong and remitting money by freight as in past years they are now enabled to enter into and conclude their contracts on the spot—advantages which they appreciate to the full and of which they are not slow to avail themselves." And yet, "there is hardly a [foreign] firm which can congratulate itself on having done really remunerative business, seeing that the margin of profit has of necessity been kept very low. Another factor which has aided substantially in swelling our returns is the enterprise shown by many firms in introducing novelties to the market, in the hope of attracting customers."

IRON-FILINGS AS TEA.

Russian kerosene oil has been absent from the market as the result of the war, but America and Sumatra have filled the gap. The trade in paper led manufacturers to believe that it betokened constant consumption. They glutted the market, and stock in hand in Canton was on the 9th of February last estimated at £14,000 for which purchasers had yet to be found. In exports, it is worthy of notice that, the Commissioner has this note: "The tea business is gradually degenerating and decaying and seems to be doomed, as growers will not awaken to the fact that a leaf of better quality and greater purity is in demand." He relates the fact that the London Customs rejected 6000 chests Scented Capers because the tea was adulterated with iron filings and sand, and unfit for use. A shipment which arrived in Australia was characterised as "nothing better than dirt."

A PLETHORA OF SHIPS.

With regard to shipping, Mr. Mayers records the fact that 7447 vessels (excluding steam launches plying in local waters) entered and cleared, representing a capacity of 5,731,310 tons—which were 320 vessels less but a gain of 501,773 in tonnage. "There is not the slightest doubt," he remarks, "that the tonnage on the river is out of all proportion to the actual requirements, a fact which was clearly demonstrated during the enforced idleness for several months of two of the largest and best steamers engaged in the trade." And that absence did not affect the shares of rival companies, Hongkong quotations actually dropping a point. 7919 foreigners and 914,384 natives arrived at Canton; 6815 foreigners and 856,019

natives departed. The difference is accounted for by the increase in foreign residents in China—and the difficulty of obtaining accurate figures.

TREASURE IN CANTON.

During 1904, "the movements in treasure were more than ordinarily heavy—Hk. Tls. 5,647,900 coming in, mostly dollars, and Hk. Tls. 14,824,879 going out, including copper cent pieces to the value of Hk. Tls. 1,106,442, which were exported for distribution up north. The following are the figures returned by the Mint as the number of coins struck during 1904, viz: dollars, 17,0-0,; 10-cent pieces, 50,872,000; and copper cents, 147,864,000."

Mr. Mayers refers to the running of the railway between Canton and Samshui and states that in December 1904 the daily average of passengers carried in and out of Samshui was 7,273. The line was paying handsomely, especially the Canton-Fatshan section.

CHINESE APPRECIATE ELECTRICITY.

A remark which is worthy of attention occurs under "Miscellaneous." It is as follows: "There is a constantly increasing demand for electric light and the China Light and Power Company whose works are in the Front Reach, near the Dutch Folly, are hardly able to meet the demand with their present plant, which is, however, being added to. Electric light is quite common now in the suburbs and is universally used in Shamien where electric fans have done much to reduce the discomforts of the Canton summer." The telephone was also being appreciated.

IN KOWLOON.

Passing now to the report on Kowloon district, issued by Mr. W. R. McD. Parr we learn that in 1904 the total value of trade for the year showed but a slight enhancement on the figures for the preceding twelve months. As values for many items both exports and exports had increased he states that too much reliance cannot be placed on the figures given. The Canton night and day boats had cut into the junk trade, and the security afforded against robbery was a strong inducement to the native shipper to adopt the new means of carriages. From a Revenue point of view the figures were the poorest on record, a falling off of some Tls. 11,000 being recorded. The decline was principally under the headings of opium duty and likin. The writer says—"Some of the more valuable cargoes that formerly passed our stations in junk *en route* to Canton have enhanced the latter part's Revenue at the expense of that collected here." The total foreign import trade was valued at a little over 17½ millions, against 16½ millions in 1903, and 22 millions in 1902. Sumatra oil entered to the extent of nearly a million gallons—an enhancement on the previous year's figures and those of 1902, but the import was small as compared with over four million gallons in 1907. American and Russian oil fell to 2½ millions as against over 4 millions in the previous year. There was a falling off in the number of junks reported at the stations due to piracy, which appears to be rampant.

CHINESE FOR THE RAND.

The concluding sentences of the report are worthy of remark: "Early in the year on the passing of legislative measures sanctioning the introduction of Chinese coolie labour into South Africa, the emigration agents for the Rand mines established a segregation depot for intending emigrants at Laichikok, in the New Territory. Matsheds were erected and every comfort provided for the housing of the coolies whilst awaiting shipment, and a large fleet of steamships was chartered for the conveyance of these labourers to South Africa. At first, the wages and prospects offered being liberal, no great difficulty was experienced in getting a considerable number of natives, willing to proceed abroad, to come forward; later on, however, candidates for employment were less numerous, and during the past few months it has been found necessary to despatch the ships from Hongkong, with only a few hundred coolies on board *via* Chefoo and Chinwangtan, there to ship further drafts of emigrants from the northern provinces."

THE COAST PORTS.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR MERCHANTS.

THE SWATOW-CHAO-CHOU-FU RAILWAY.

After dealing generally with some of the many interesting features of the Trade Reports for 1904 of the southern treaty ports, issued by the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs, details were given as to the trade of Canton and Kowloon. But there are several other ports which have a direct and abiding interest for merchants in Hongkong, such as Amoy and Swatow, and the reflections of the writers of these reports are equally as incisive and important as in the case of the former reports. In the last article a good deal relating to the Amoy report was included under the general review, such as Mr. de Galembert's views as to how the money brought home by Chinese emigrants might possibly be better spent if invested in mines or local undertakings, instead of swelling the receipts of dealers in foreign goods. But there are several matters of interest which were left untouched. The fluctuating dollar, for instance, and its concomitant evils.

THE CURRENCY AND LOTTERIES.

"Until some means are devised to obviate the erratic changes in the value of the currency trade must suffer, for confidence, one of the most important factors to traders, is thereby, if not totally destroyed, very seriously impaired." Most people will agree with that statement, which, however, does not carry us very much farther. Speaking of lotteries, Mr. de Galembert observes that "Independently of the semi-official Fukkien Lottery, there are scores of eager investors, rich or poor, thus rendering unproductive an important capital which would otherwise be available for trading purposes. Pawnshops are filled with articles pledged by the poorest to raise money for the purchase of chances which will only lead most of the investors to ruin and misery."

NEGLECTED OPPORTUNITIES.

Yet, for all that, the gross value of the trade of the port showed an increase of Hk. Tls. 500,000 over that of the previous year. That was due to the large quantity of rice imported and to the higher values at which certain foreign goods were assessed on compiling the Returns, which explains why the Revenue shows a decrease of $50,000. The principal goods imported consisted of opium, manufactured cotton and metallic goods—"all of which might, with the expenditure of a little energy, be found or produced in the country itself and in quantities not only sufficient to supply the local demand, but to allow of exportation abroad." Thus Mr. de Galembert, who is a great pedagogue. Such like considerations "when regarded from the strict Chinese point of view, compel the conclusion that the present state of the trade of this port, if not of the whole of China, is unsatisfactory." Still an increase of $50 000 in the value of the trade for the year is hardly quite unsatisfactory, although, of course, it might have been more. The revenue of the port showed a decrease of Hk. Tls. 51,601—due to the decreased importation of foreign opium. Export duties slightly increased.

A DEAL IN MORPHIA.

"Amongst foreign luxuries much appreciated at this port cigars, cigarettes, lamps, milk, soap, foreign paper (especially printing) show an increase." Owing to the impending introduction of a new tariff on morphia in 1902, 19,906 ounces were imported; in 1903 some 3,000 ounces were brought in; last year the morphia imported amounted to the noble amount of 8 ounces! It is not wonderful to hear that the market value of morphia is still below Hk. Tls. 3 per ounce—which is the duty it is supposed to pay. Mr. de Galembert adds—"There is not the least doubt that this dangerous drug is still in great vogue among the Chinese, and that the high duty has not in any way stopped its importation, but simply induced the smuggling of this very easily concealable poison." During the year 1,706 steamers entered and cleared, about a hundred less than in 1903, but the tonnage for 1904 exceeded that of 1903 by 28,200 tons.

INVETERATE OPIUM SMOKERS.

Speaking of opium the Deputy Commissioner of Customs at Amoy remarks that the reduction in the quantity of opium imported is more apparent than real. Over 1,200 piculs of native opium arrived *via* Shanghai from the Szechuan and Yunnan provinces against 158 piculs in 1903. It was also reported that over 8,000 piculs of Szechuan opium arrived overland, and 7,700 piculs were produced in the neighbourhood. "Of this large quantity, only an insignificant portion was shipped away in a legitimate manner." Going into statistics, Mr. de Galembert arrives at the conclusion that if the average regular smoker consumes 2 mace a day or 4½ catties a year, "we are compelled to conclude that there are over 325,000 opium smokers in the Southern part of the Fuhkien province alone."

AT SWATOW.

Mr. Frank Smith, Acting Commissioner of Customs at Swatow, records the fact that on the whole trade was fairly prosperous during 1904, but one with which it could hardly be said merchants were altogether pleased. Swatow, fortunately, did not feel the pinch of the rising dollar. "Business with the Straits has been attended with difficulties owing to conditions prevailing there which are said to have caused some 400 to 600 shops to close their doors. Consequently small dealers here and in the neighbouring centres doing business in that direction were disappointed with their remittances and lost money—not much individually but a good deal collectively." The harvests were good, rice was cheap, and the country tranquil. Flour is being imported in greater quantities than ever, and kerosene oil, the bulk of which comes from Sumatra, is swelling the list of imports every year. "Railway plant and materials valued at the Hk. Tls. 14,671, take their place in the tables for the first time." The total tonnage entered and cleared was 2,576,623 tons, rather less than in the previous year.

The railway which is to join this place with Ch'ao-chou-fu has not advanced as quickly as was hoped; whilst the purchase of land for stations is completed, considerable difficulty, it is said, has been experienced in procuring land for the road itself, and even now only about half is bought. The line, the work on which actually began in September, will be about 32 miles long, and is to have seven intermediate stations. The contractors are Japanese, who supply all material, the rails coming from England, engines from America, and carriages from Formosa. There are no great engineering difficulties in the way, and only four small bridges and one large one (the latter so constructed as to open for boats to pass) are necessary. The bank in connexion with this railway, mentioned in the Report for 1903, has not yet been opened here, but branches have been established at Hongkong and Manila. The advent of a railway has caused a very distinct "boom" in land on the Swatow side, and more especially near to the spot at which it is proposed to erect the station. The value of land on the Kialat Road has advanced at least three times the price it was this time in the previous year, and in Swatow proper quite double. Boundary stones have been liberally dotted down to represent real or imaginary claims, and land has changed hands at very inflated prices; even for foreshore under water—useless until bunded and filled in—there seems to have been a scramble, and the title-deed question has been very much in evidence. The year has been marked by a great increase in the number of Japanese in the port and district, and this is a feature well worthy of note. The railway of course has done a great deal to swell their numbers—from one in 1903 to 152, and 35 Chinese subjects who have become naturalised Japanese.

SOME FEATURES.

There are many features of the year which have to be mentioned as worthy of note. Postal affairs are progressing; 315,178 letters cards and papers were dealt with in 1904 as compared with 128,782 in the previous year; a local force of 320 men was raised and maintained by local merchants and shop keepers to guard against robbers.

BROKEN RECORDS.

In his report on Hangchow, Mr. P. von Tauner, Commissioner of Customs, speaks bitterly of the neglect shown by the Chinese Government in dealing with piracies. To all petitions "the officials turn a deaf ear or reply that decent people do not travel by night," a very characteristic Chinese reply. Hangchow enjoyed a year of great prosperity, the value of the trade of the Revenue collected having overtopped all previous records. During the year 3,921 steam-launches, 9,726 passenger boats, and 10,930 cargo boats entered and cleared, the highest figures recorded. The import of treasure amounted to Hk. Tls. 3,378,153, the export to Hk. Tls. 5,637,569 leaving a net export of Hk. Tls 2,254,356. "This outflow of treasure is unusual at Hangchow," says the Commissioner, "and though of this amount Hk. Tls. 700,000 can be accounted for by Government shipments to repay the foreign indemnity, the minus balance is still a very considerable one." The Mint worked with good results; between 700,000 and 800,000 1-cent pieces were turned out a day. "The coining of the 2-cent pieces which had been begun was again stopped early in the year. The Mint issued the coins to the public at 90 cents for the dollar, thus allowing good profits to the exchange shops which made the market rate to vary between 82 and 88 pieces."

HOW TO SETTLE STRIKES.

One of the principal features of the year at Ningpo was a strike by the coolies engaged in the indigo dyeing. A foreign firm was greatly inconvenienced, but the Magistrate interfered and the questions at issue were satisfactorily settled—to whose satisfaction is not stated. A steam trawler started operations, under Government auspices, but it has not, so far at least proved a success. A variety of schemes to introduce electric light, and provide fresh water by means of artesian wells came to nothing. On the whole, trade of Ningpo for the year was quite satisfactory.

NORWEGIAN *v.* THE CHINA MERCHANTS.

Wenchow was affected by the Russo-Japanese war. It shut the markets of Manchuria to Kittysols and fresh oranges and played havoc with tea, which, we are told, forms the port's staple commodity and its main source of revenue. Under the heading "Shipping," there is an interesting entry. It is as follows: "An attempt on the part of the Norwegian steamship *Kamor* to contest the monopoly of steam traffic between this port and Shanghai, so long enjoyed by the China Merchants Steam Navigation Company, proved abortive, owing to the defection of the promised supporters. No doubt sentiment played an important part in arriving at this result; but the vessel was not well-suited to the trade, being of too great carrying capacity. The threatened competition had, however, the advantage of bringing about a permanent reduction of the somewhat arbitrary rates charged by the China Merchants Company. Competition in the steam carrying trade is a great *desideratum* and one which would make for the welfare of mercantile interests generally."

GOLDEN OPPORTUNITIES.

Mr. Fred. W. Carey's report of the trade at Santuao is a most interesting one, because it is the report of a Customs official who realises that he is more than an official—he is a commercial scout and his hints to merchants are worthy of the greatest consideration. Moreover the smallest compliment people could pay to an official so energetic and broad-minded is to read and digest his suggestions. Although the purchasing power of the people is great, "Merchants have so far made no attempt to exploit the trade of the neighbourhood or cater for the needs of the people." He suggests the opening of simple depots. "There is a favourable opening here for some energetic importing merchant whose success would be assured if he could set aside one part of his establishment as a 'wares museum' for all kinds of foreign goods. There are plenty of wealthy people in this neighbourhood who would be tempted to buy goods were samples on view here. The Chinese are essentially a canny race; they like to know beforehand what they are going to get for their money. At present native buyers are dependent on Foochow for their requirements in the way of foreign goods, which must always, by reason of extra carriage and transhipment expenses, be dearer there than they would be at Santuao if imported direct from Hongkong or Shanghai."

LETHARGIC FOOCHOW.

There seems to be nothing new to say of Foochow—things have jogged on in the same old way. Mr. E. B. Drew would like to shake up the people. He has found them to be "very lazy, inert, content with few comforts and lacking the spirit of energy and ambition. While of a mild and hospitable disposition, they are supine under oppression; whether it be the oppression of their bullying neighbours of Kiangsi or of the ruler who taxes but does not see justice done." Again "the Fuhkienese sadly need to bestir themselves morally and physically." To Mr. Drew a change of heart involving a welcome to foreign experience and capital seems the only remedy for decay.

A QUESTION OF JURISDICTION.

30th inst.

Before Mr. C. A. D. Melbourne this morning, Wong Cheong Tak was summoned for wilfully damaging a fishing net valued at $45, the property of Cheung Kam Yau, a junk-master, on the 30th ulto. When the case was called on His Worship remarked that according to the summons the offence was committed at Chi Chow, in Chinese territory, and therefore outside the jurisdiction of this Court.

Mr. F. C. Barlow, of Mr. H. K. Holmes' office, who appeared for the complainant, said he would prove by witnesses that the offence was committed at Ah Chow, which was within the jurisdiction of this Court, and called the complainant. Complainant said he was master of junk No. 19009. On the 30 ulto; when fishing at Ah Chow, the defendant boarded his junk, and pulled his fishing net out of the water. Witness caught hold of it with the intention of taking it from him, when the defendant cut it in half. He then demanded compensation for the damage done, but defendant refused to give him any.

His Worship: Were you on the defendant's fishing ground?—No.

After further evidence in corroboration had been given, Mr. Barlow said that although the Police at Taiho refused to charge the defendant, the complainant had probably made a mistake in the name of the place. Everyone was liable to make a mistake in names bearing a resemblance to each other, but the evidence showed that the offence was committed in British territory.

Sergeant Mackenzie stated that when the complainant visited the Police Station he reported that the occurrence had taken place at Chi Chow; this place was distant between four and five miles from Ah Chow.

His Worship: Then that is out of the jurisdiction of this Court.

Mr. Barlow said that that was only a statement made at the Police Sation. The complainant was quite liable to have made a mistake.

His Worship said he did not agree with Mr. Barlow, as the complainant pointed out to Sergeant MacKenzie that the offence was committed at Chi Chow. On being told that this Court had no jurisdiction in this case, it was probable that he then altered the name of the place to Ah Chow.

Li Fung, for the defence, said that he was fishing at Chi Chow when the trouble arose between the complainant and defendant. There was a strong tide running at the time and his net got tangled with the complainant's, and he asked defendant to help him pull his net in and it was probably in the pulling that complainant's net got broken. It was not true that the defendant cut it.

His Worship said he held that the offence was committed in Chinese territory and, therefore, the Court having no jurisdiction, the defendant must be discharged.

THE ZORILLA COMPANY.

A VERY SUCCESSFUL PERFORMANCE.

20th inst.

Now that the cold weather has arrived in real earnest, and theatre-going becomes a pleasure instead of a trial, the appearance of the Zorilla Musical Comedy Company is to be welcomed by all who find their evenings hang heavy. Last night the Zorillas opened at the Theatre Royal with that amazing extravaganza "Whirly Girly," and, for the first time this season, the stalls were crowded. Indeed a more enthusiastic audience has seldom been seen in Hongkong. Encores were insisted upon until the players must have been absolutely done up; people began to laugh at the jokes of the podgy humorist almost before they had been delivered; and from beginning to end the audience expressed its satisfaction. The effect which a full house has upon players was never more marked than last night. The choruses were given with a verve and swing that set the feet of the audience tingling to tap time; the solos rang true and the refrains were caught up by those in the auditorium. As for the character sketches of "Hochderkaiser' and his diminutive chum, the onlookers began to laugh as they appeared on the stage and kept on laughing. "Whirly Girly" was given when the Zorillas were last in Hongkong, but that performance good though it proved to be, was poor in comparison with the show staged last night. Whether it was the crowded house, or whether the players were in higher spirits than usual it is difficult to say, but there certainly existed a bond of sympathy between players and audience which ensured the success of the performance. "Whirly Girly" has been called an extravaganza; it is more, it is a farrago of vaudeville, burlesque, musical comedy, and all the rest of the stage products which mean vivacity, variety and charm. Miss Maud Beatty was at the top of her form, and sang the "big brass band" song with a liveliness and vim that gained enthusiastic plaudits. The two humorists of the caste were in fine fettle, and the duets and quartettes of the chorus were capitally received. Owing to a mischance these were no programmes, so we are precluded from entering into the merits of individual performers. Only one absentee was noticed—the lady who formerly acted as daughter to the Jewish millionaire. The Jew, by the way, was inimitably rendered, his Yiddishy cake-walk being cruelly funny. Altogether the Zorillas are at their best, and it is safe to predict crowded audiences during their stay in Hongkong.

CHINA AND THE UNITED STATES.

U. S. EXCLUSION LAWS AND THE BOYCOTT.

THE MURDER OF MISSIONARIES.

On the 5th ult., the Chinese Minister at Washington addressed the Merchants' Club of Chicago as the guest of honour. The Minister chose for the subject of his speech "Commercial Possibilities between the United States and China."

The speaker, says an American paper, while addressing his hearers in the most courteous manner and frequently evoking their applause, laid indirectly at the door of the United States itself the responsibility for the boycott recently instituted in China against American goods. He asserted that the numerous cases of hardship and unjust treatment which had been imposed by over-zealous American officials upon Chinese of the exempt classes had so worked upon the feelings of the Chinese nation that the regretable boycott had resulted. Sir Chen Tung was heard with the greatest interest by the large number of business men who were around the banquet board, and his address was loudly applauded.

The address of Sir Chen Tung Liang was in part as follows:—"From the earliest intercourse of the United States with China the relations between our two countries have been of the friendliest character. The constant policy of our Government in regard to the affairs of the Far East has been one of conspicuous magnanimity and justice. The Chinese, as a Government, are under a deep sense of gratitude, and as a people are naturally most friendly towards the Government and people of the United States as China is brought more and more closely in contact with foreign countries. But there is one difference now engaging the serious attention of the two Governments which I may be pardoned for bringing to your notice.

"The exclusion question and the administration of the exclusion laws are matters which seem to have engaged very little the consideration of the American people, but they are matters of vital importance to the Chinese directly concerned. After receiving most sacred assurances that the restrictions should be reasonable and not at all solute prohibition, the Chinese Government gave consent to the American Government's regulation, having good reason to believe that the question would be handled with due leniency and that the American people would not take advantage of their good nature. It is evident that the object of the American Government was to secure and the consent of the Chinese Government was given to the prohibition of Chinese labourers only, and no other class. During more than a score of years of restriction and prohibition abuses have sprung up on both sides. Prior to the President's order of last June these abuses had so stirred up the feeling of the Chinese people that the boycott against American goods was the regrettable cure.

"In compliance with the wishes of the American Government, the Chinese Government has issued an Imperial decree warning the people to respect every Treaty stipulation under penalty of severe punishment, and urging them to suppress the boycott pending action of Congress to relieve the situation, and the provincial authorities have issued similar proclamations.

"The Chinese Government while viewing with concern the exclusion of Chinese labourers under undue discrimination is, nevertheless, not unwilling to take into consideration the condition of things alleged to exist in this country. But, aside from the labouring class, all other classes should be admitted, and should receive the same treatment as is accorded to similar classes of Europeans entering this 'land of freedom.' As the laws and the immigration regulations stand to-day, aside from the five classes named in the expired Treaty of 1894 (students, merchants, teachers, travellers and officials), the following classes of Chinese cannot enter the United States; Bankers, lawyers, journalists, priests and the clergy, physicians, dentists, insurance agents, brokers and commercial travellers.

"In fact, the laws on the subject seem to be in such a state of hopeless confusion that different Attorneys-General have rendered conflicting decisions as to the meaning of certain vital requirements, with the result that the regulations which should be intended merely to carry into effect the provisions of the laws impose conditions additional to the laws and unwarranted requirements which have the force of legal enactments.

"In consequence Chinese subjects have been made to suffer great hardships in their attempts to land in the United States. And after being admitted they have been incessantly harassed by immigration agents.

"Any new settlement of the exclusion question, therefore, in order to satisfy the Chinese Government and to be in accord with the dignity and sense of justice of this great American Republic, must have regard to the unsatisfactory manner in which the laws and regulations relating to Chinese immigration made in pursuance of Treaty stipulations have been administered, and should correct the abuses that are intolerable."

In conclusion, Sir Chen referred to the "lamentable events" of the murder of American missionaries, saying that under Imperial edicts foreign missionaries are lawful in China, and that the cause of the mob violence has not yet been definitely ascertained, but prompt punishment will be inflicted upon the murderers and full indemnity made for injuries and losses sustained.

THE death is reported from Chinkiang, under unusual and peculiarly sad circumstances, of Mr. W. L. Allen, a member of the Engineering Staff of the Shanghai-Nanking Railway. It appears that while at dinner Mr. Allen accidentally swallowed some hard sharp substance, possibly a bit of glass. He was aware of this at the time, but as no further serious inconvenience followed he hoped that no harm would finally result. But within a few days he began to have severe hemorrhages, and in spite of all that the physicians could do he passed away on the 13th instant at the age of 27. A post-mortem examination showed that the substance swallowed had, in its passage, severed an artery, thus causing death.

UNION INSURANCE SOCIETY OF CANTON, LD.

INCREASING THE CAPITAL.

20th inst.

An extraordinary general meeting of the Union Insurance Society of Canton, Ltd., was held at the head office in Queen's Buildings to-day. Mr. H. A. W. Slade presided, and those present were Messrs. A. G. Wood, N. A. Siebs, G. H. Medhurst, A. Forbes, directors; W. J. Saunders, secretary; the Hon. Mr. Gershom Stewart, Messrs. A. G. Morris, A. H. Rouse, C. M. G. Burnie, H. J. M. Cavalho, F. D. Goddard, J. A. Cavalho, A. V. Apcar, H. M. Nemazee, J. K. Michael, C. H. Beavis, E. J. Grist, A. B. Rouse, F. P. Hett, F. W. Warre, W. Melchers, and S. Hancock.

The Secretary read the notice calling the meeting.

The Chairman said:—Gentlemen—The issue of this new capital is required to enable us to carry out our contract with those shareholders of the China Traders' Insurance Company who have accepted or shall accept the offer made to them by the Society on the 25th August last. We offered to issue new shares and allot them to the shareholders of that Company in exchange for their present shares on the basis of intrinsic values taking a convenient round figure based upon approximate estimates for this exchange of shares, and paying the balance of value in cash when the intrinsic values could be properly ascertained. All other legal requirements have been complied with and a sufficient majority of the China Traders' shareholders have already accepted our offer. It only remains for us to pass this resolution. As you are well aware it is difficult to forecast the actual intrinsic value of the shares of a marine insurance company with any great accuracy. No one can tell whether the vessels afloat are going to arrive or not, or what claims are coming in in respect of known and unknown casualties, and therefore in fixing a convenient round figure on approximate estimates we have had to allow a margin for error. The nearest convenient figure which can be taken for our purpose is one Union share for ten China Traders' shares, with the balance in cash when finally ascertained. This will explain why we are taking power to issue 2,400 shares. There are 24,000 China Traders' shares in all, and though all of the China Traders' shareholders have not so far accepted our offer we wish to give all of them the opportunity of doing so, even those who have at first declined it. A circular will shortly be issued to the China Traders' shareholders renewing our offer for reply up to the 31st March next. The resolution goes on to mention "a contract or memorandum in writing made or to be made pursuant to the said offer and to be filed with the Registrar of Companies." In order to comply with the Ordinances, when shares are not issued for cash, a contract showing on what terms they are issued has to be filed with the Registrar of Companies. In our case the contract will consist of the forms of assent received from the individual shareholders of the China Traders' Insurance Company, endorsed with particulars of the allotment made in each case. The resolution finally gives the Board power to dispose, in such manner as it shall think most beneficial to the Society, of any balance of shares which may be left over after dealing with all of the assenting shareholders of the China Traders' Insurance Company. This balance will, we think, be a small number of shares. In any case it will be some time before we know how many shares are over, and there is no intention of disposing of them just at present. With these remarks I beg to propose the resolution as follows:

"That the Capital of the Society be increased to $1,100,000 by the creation of 2,400 additional ordinary shares of $250 each (whereof $100 shall be credited as paid up) ranking for dividend and in all other respects pari passu with the existing ordinary shares of the Society; and that the said additional shares, so far as shall be necessary for the purpose, be issued to those shareholders of the China Traders' Insurance Company, Ltd., who have accepted or shall accept the Society's offer made to them on the 25th August, 1905; such issue being in accordance with the terms of a contract or memorandum in writing made or to be made pursuant to the said offer and to be filed with the Registrar of Companies; and that the balance, if any, of the said additional shares be disposed of by the Board in such manner as it shall think most beneficial to the Society."

Mr. A. G. Morris seconded.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

The Chairman—That is all the business and I thank you for your attendance. A confirmatory meeting will be held on the 4th of January at 11.30 a.m.

BRITISH NAVAL MIRACLES.

H.M.S. "DIADEM'S" WONDERFUL PERFORMANCE.

20th inst.

The age of miracles has not yet passed—not by any means. When the foreign population at Shanghai thought their lives were in danger they called upon the warships for help. The *Bonaventure* and the *Astraea* sent landing parties ashore. Also the *Diadem!* According to the unimpeachable testimony of our senior morning contemporary this morning "the first-class protected cruiser *Diadem* has arrived and is landing 500 men," at Shanghai. Now, this is what we call something like business. None of your shilly-shallying about the British fleet. "Send along the noble *Diadem*," cried the people. A watch was set on the Saddles, where the mud flats abound. A longshoreman with a first-class, double-lensed, copper-lined, telescoped wide-angled telescope took up his post. He had a chronometer to note the exact time that the British flagship arrived; a barometer to show the depth of water, and a thermometer to find out the altitude of his nervous tension. Like Sister Ann on the tower he awaited the coming of the *Diadem*. "Hany-think in sight, Bill?" shouted the quarter-master through a megaphone over a wireless telephonic circuit. "Not a bloomin' thing, 'cept a blue-eyed windjammer," responded the longshoreman. Half an hour later the wireless telephone rang up—"Fre's the bally *Diadem*," cried the watcher, and immediately the foreign population in Shanghai began to sing "Saved, saved, at last." Meanwhile people in Hongkong were fondly congratulating themselves that if there was any fun here the *Diadem* was at hand. Indeed one newspaper—modestly we record it,—the "*Hongkong Telegraph*—had sighted the *Diadem* at Kowloon Docks, on Monday. On Tuesday, the *Telegraph* had the temerity to say that the *Diadem* was still at Kowloon, and the naval officials had the hardihood to state that the *Diadem* being in Dock the *Alacrity* would fly the Admiral's flag. Of course, this was a ruse; it must have been, because the representative of our senior morning contemporary saw the *Diadem* with his own eyes, saw 500 men being landed from the flagship. But there are people of such crass obstinacy in Kowloon that they persist in declaring the *Diadem* has lain in dry dock since Monday, that she has been in Hongkong waters for days, and that she has never left the port. But Shanghai is a great place; it has a Bund and a procession of flunders every afternoon. When the watcher on his mud-flat eyrie was told to expect the *Diadem*, he suspected every vessel of trying to slink up the river under disguise. Perhaps the *Diadem* at Kowloon is not the *Diadem* at all, just as the single, solitary dead man in Nanking Road whose sad appearance was so affectingly dwelt upon by our junior morning contemporary might not have been dead after all, but only shamming—although his pitiful fate brought tears to the eyes of two girls, also a boy, who was spanked into contrition. Perhaps it is a foreign spy that lies so serenely at Kowloon, masquerading as the flagship of the China squadron. Perhaps that was the reason the Admiral changed the venue of his flag. Perhaps! Because we have it in black and white that when the indefatigable longshoreman, who had been anticipating Christmas, saw the *Diadem* sneaking up to Shanghai, he shouted—"Ho, ho! I sees yer; is ol' Gerry aboard?" The language of the quarter deck of the ghostly *Diadem* is said to have been eclipsed only by the hard breathing of the lower decks. Now that the *Diadem* is safe and sound at Shanghai, and landing 500 men; while the *Diadem* is also safe and sound at Kowloon being scraped, there need be no fear as to the efficiency of the British Navy. They call the Japs ubiquitous. Pooh! the British Navy can give them fits; they can be getting repaired in one place and cleared for action in another place, at one and the same time; we believe if it came to the push they could manage to be in three places at the same time. No wonder the poet sang that the British Navy "keeps 'em in their place, when they know they've got to face," etc. Our senior morning contemporary has done a service to the Empire in calling attention to the wonderful, marvellous, nay, miraculous feats which the British Navy performs quite as a matter of course and in the ordinary way of business. Long live the *Diadem!*

STRIKE AT TANJONG PAGAR.

DOCK CHINAMEN AND AN AMERICAN SHIP.

A somewhat sensational strike occurred yesterday morning at the Victoria Dock at Tanjong Pagar, a large number of Chinese, iron makers and coolies, peremptorily refusing to commence the extensive repairs which will be carried out on the American four-masted sailing ship *Acme*, which has put into dock recently. The Singapore *Free Press*, of 14th inst., says:—The *Acme* is of New York, a large shapely vessel, and her commander is Capt. A. G. McKay. She has been badly knocked about, having gone ashore in the Sunda Straits and had a rather remarkable escape from foundering. This occurred as long ago as Sept. 10th, and having been towed off the reef she went to Batavia in a very crippled condition. The *Acme* obtained pumps there and then went on to Manila where she discharged her cargo. A day or two ago the *Acme* arrived in Singapore, and yesterday was commenced the task of getting her again into a safe and proper condition for the sea. This will take over two months, for the work Tanjong Pagar have to do is the most important they have been called upon to carry out during recent years.

A big surprise, however, was in store for the captain and the Dock authorities for the men placed upon the work at 7 o'clock absolutely refused to start it, and there can be no doubt that the remarkable occurrence is to be attributed to several of the local Chinese firebrands, whose attitude upon the boycott which has been in progress for some time now against America and American goods, dictated the strike at the Docks. Happily prompt action by the Tanjong Pagar authorities and the Chinese Protectorate was taken to cope with affairs, and strict measures (including threats of deportation) nipped the discontent in the bud, and a very brief space sufficed to bring the men to their senses. They resumed work shortly after midday. This morning a representative of the *Free Press* at about 10 o'clock saw the *Acme*, and the dock was alive with workers, the coolies all steadily passing to and from the ship with ballast, and the iron makers hammering away at her sides.

Mr. W. Wright, superintendent shipwright at the Docks, informed us that he received word that the men had refused to work on the *Acme* about 7 o'clock and their grounds were soon ascertained. They stated with their usual charming simplicity, that there were "a lot of bad men in Singapore who would if they continued on the repair have their heads chopped off." The boat was American, and they were warned to leave it alone. The "No. 1" iron maker, one of the men who are responsible for the coolies, and they affirmed that they (the iron-makers) were willing to work and nothing they could do say would induce the coolies to do so. This was afterwards discovered to be the reverse of the case. The refusal originated with the iron makers, who had themselves been frightened by threats. One of the men brought to Mr. Wright a placard, with the picture of a ship and Chinese characters round it—an instruction to decline to work. Mr. Nicholson and the Chinese Protector, however, were telephoned for and on their threatening that if the men did not resume immediately they would be sent out of the Colony, they set about their tasks again. At 1 o'clock every man was working. So far as they were concerned they were only too anxious to recommence, for they have not had too much employment at Tanjong Pagar lately, and are in a fairly needy state. As the Chinamen left work at night they clustered round a warning notice at the yard gates, and having digested its contents, quietly melted away.

Captain McKay, of the *Acme*, asked to relate what he knew about the strike said: Nothing, beyond what I hear. It was soon over. Of course, it is not my concern. This is a Government docks now Government have undertaken the work of repair, and it was for them to see it is carried out. A typical Yankee, the skipper added: And the coolies struck a pretty hard proposition in refusing to do the work of their employees—the Government.

The story our reporter succeeded in obtaining is corroborated by several other Tanjong Pagar men with whom he was in conversation. The general impression is that what might have developed into a very awkward situation was promptly suppressed by the Government.

Capt. Chancellor, of the Tanjong Pagar Police, interviewed, said he had not even had a report of the occurrence, which he thought had received exaggerated importance. He had received information, he added, of a fight between the *Acme's* crew, but he found Capt. McKay was not in need of any assistance and this storm soon blew over.

Another representative of the *Singapore Free Press* called at the Chinese Protectorate this morning to inquire what action had been taken with regard to this boycott. Mr. W. D. Barnes, the Chinese Protector, was seen and he said that the boycott of the *Acme* commenced yesterday morning when the men told off to attend to the hull repairs refused work. In due course he was informed of this refusal and went down to inquire what was wrong. He was told by a dozen of the head coolies, who where brought before him, that a notice had been posted at the docks daring any coolie to work on or at the *Acme*. This notice was seen and proved to be anonymous. The coolies were then told that they would either have to return to work or be deported and were given till afternoon to decide which they would choose. They chose to work and at the afternoon shift turned to at work on the vessel. A hint to the local boycott committee that Government would stand no nonsense.

THE L. C. ELECTION.

KEENLY-CONTESTED SEAT.

PROMINENT CANDIDATES FOR THE VACANCY.

MR. H. E. POLLOCK, K.C., ELECTED.

21st Inst.

The unofficial Justices of the Peace of Hongkong mustered in full force at St. Andrew's Hall in the City Hall to-day, to exercise their privilege of electing a representative to the Legislative Council in room of the Hon. Sir Paul Chater, whose term of office expires on the 16th of January. As everybody knows, there were three candidates in the field and so keen had been the interest manifested in the election that there was a hum of expectancy in the air when the unofficial J. P.'s took their seats. It was evident from the appearance of the assemblage that this election had stirred the dovecots of unofficial circles. As a rule these elections are cut-and-dried and every member of the Justiciary entitled to the franchise proceeds to cast his vote more as a matter of form than as a duty. But on this occasion there was none of that languid boredom apparent in the faces of the Justices. They had been canvassed up hill and down dale for their votes. Being so few in number every vote was worth its weight in gold to the candidates, and if the Justices instead of being men of light and leading, men of substance and standing, had been humble sycophants, we might have had a scene from the days of the "rotten boroughs" enacted in the City Hall. But it is no mean honour to be a Justice of the Peace in Hongkong, and responsibility sat heavy on the shoulders of the gentlemen whose votes would determine which of the candidates should sit on the right hand of His Excellency the Governor at the Legislative Council. To begin with, some of the Justices had given a perfunctory half-promise that they would vote this way or that, before they knew who were the contestants. Some had drawn back and kept the open mind, and some sat on the fence. The candidates for the vacancy heard their good points painted and embellished with all the skill which master embroiderers could command. The candidates were all public men, accustomed to the glare of criticism; but even they betrayed some signs of nervousness. They looked over the assembled Justices of the Peace and doubtless wondered who was a supporter, trying to judge from a flickering eye-brow or a curved lip whether their chances of election were rosy or the reverse. But the main thing that struck the onlooker was the serious consideration which had evidently been given to the matter of electing a representative by the members of the Justiciary.

AT THE HALL.

The candidates took their seats in the front row of chairs provided for the accommodation of the electors, Mr. H. A. W. Slade sitting at the farther end of the left row and beside him his opponent, Mr. E. A. Hewett. Mr. H. E. Pollock took his seat at the sea end of the row. The Chairman was assisted by the Chief Clerk at the Magistracy, Mr. T. N. Hanmer, who performed the recording duties of the occasion. Beside each of the officials there attended a Chinese clerk, and the presence of a European sergeant was deemed necessary to complete the official staff in connection with the election.

THE PROCEEDINGS.

The order of the proceedings was clearly laid down in the circular which had been issued by the First Police Magistrate, Mr. F. A. Hazeland. The name of every candidate had to be proposed in writing by one Justice and seconded by another. Then the voting would be by ballot, and no Justice could claim more than one vote. The ballot boxes would be opened and the votes counted in the presence of the Justices present. The seventh rule was important—"In the event of an equal number of votes being registered in favour of candidates whose totals are the highest the names of such candidates will be submitted for ballot." And the last rule declared that any question of procedure would be determined in accordance with the wishes of the majority of the Justices present, expressed in the usual manner.

THE JUSTICES.

Mr. F. A. Hazeland, First Police Magistrate acted as the Returning Officer. Among the unofficial Justices of the Peace present were: A. F. Arculli, F. A. Arjaree, A. Babington, G. M. Bain, H. E. Bamji, J. Barton, J. M. Beck, H. W. Bird, P. E. Brown, H. T. Butterworth, Chan A Fook, Sir Paul Chater, Kt., C.M.G., Chau Siu-ki, Duncan Clark, D. W. Craddock, W. A. Cruickshank, W. Danby, W. H. T. Davis, A. Denison, A. Forbes, Fung Wa Chuen, W. H. Gaskell, L. Gibbs, F. D. Goddard, A. G. Gordon, C. H. Grace, C. S. Gubbay, S. Hancock, G. M. Harston, E. A. Hewett, Ho Fook, Hon. Dr. Ho Kai, C.M.G., A. S. Hooper, T. F. Hough, Ho Tung-tsun, E. J. Hughes, Henry Humphreys, Rev. F. T. Johnson, E. S. Kadoorie, Lau Chu Pak, Lau Wai Chuen, D. R. Law, L. S. Lewis, Alex. Mackenzie, G. W. May, E. W. Mitchell, H. N. Mody, A. G. Morris, G. C. Moxon, J. Orange, E. Osborne, G. W. F. Playfair, H. E. Pollock, K.C., W. H. Potts, E. A. Ram, A. H. Rennie, A. Rumjahn, F. W. Rutter, W. J. Saunders, C. R. Scott, Hon. Mr. R. Shewan, A. H. Skelton, H. A. W. Slade, M. W. Slade, J. R. M. Smith, Dr. F. O. Stedman, Hon. Mr. Gershom Stewart, M. Stewart, A. G. Stokes, Dr. J. H. Swan, H. E. Tomkins, G. L. Tomlin, Tseung Sz Kai, A. Turner, Un Lai Chun, J. Y. V. Vernon, Wei Wah Leen, Hon. Mr. Wei Yuk, H. P. White, J. B. K. Whittall, W. H. Wickham, F. C. Wilford, Wong Kam Fuk, and A. G. Wood.

Punctually at four o'clock the Chairman read the notice convening the meeting and the rules laid down for the conduct of the proceedings. He then read the three nominations which had been received. A question was submitted as to the order in which the candidates should address the meeting. Mr. E. A. Hewett and Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., having expressed their views successively on the point, it was decided on a show of hands that Sir Paul Chater, as the proposer of Mr. H. A. W. Slade should be the first to speak.

SIR PAUL'S ADDRESS.

Sir Paul Chater, on rising from his seat, was greeted with loud applause. In proposing Mr. H. A. W. Slade, he said:—Gentlemen,—We are here to-day to elect a representative from the Justices of the Peace to the Legislative Council of this Colony and in proposing to you, as I have now the pleasure to do, Mr. H. A. W. Slade, I feel that no words from me are necessary to recommend him to your suffrages, since he is well known to you all having been a resident of the Colony for the past seventeen years as a member, and for some years past as the head of one of the oldest established firms in the Colony. Mr. Slade is largely interested in the commercial welfare of the Colony, and has an extended experience therein, holding, as he does a seat on the directorate of some of our leading public companies, he is chairman of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank and The Union Insurance Society of Canton, and a member of committee of the Chamber of Commerce. He is, moreover, a resident in the true sense of the word, not liable at a moment's notice to be transferred to other scenes; the life of Hongkong is his life; it, welfare, his well-being, and I feel sure that if you elect him you will have elected one who can safely be trusted to work for the interest of the Colony with unflinching zeal and ability. I beg therefore to propose you Mr. H. A. W. Slade. (Applause.)

The seconder was Mr. J. R. M. Smith whose remarks follow.

Mr. Smith said he was sure all had heard with great regret that Sir Paul Chater had decided to retire from the Council. Had he allowed himself to be persuaded to stand again the speaker was certain that he would have been returned with acclamation; for he had proved himself right worthy of the honour and distinction, and had been a most able, energetic and popular representative, not only of the Justices of the Peace, but of the whole community. Instead of seeking re-election, however, he had proposed Mr. H. A. W. Slade to fill the vacancy, and had shown in a very convincing way that he could not have put forward a more suitable successor. Not only was Mr. Slade a resident of many years' standing, but his whole future business interests were centred here, so that he was intimately concerned in all that affected the general welfare, prosperity and development of the Colony. He knew of none amongst them of whom it could be more truly said, that the interests—present and future—of the Colony were his interests; neither did he know anyone in a better position to follow a free and independent course in the Council Chamber, and, if elected, he would apply himself to public affairs in an earnest, vigorous and conscientious spirit. He was the sort of man they wanted, and the speaker hoped they would send him there.

MR. SLADE'S ADDRESS.

Mr. Slade said that when Sir Paul Chater approached him some time back and told him he did not intend to seek re-election, and asked the speaker if he would be willing to be nominated, he felt very diffident about it, but Sir Paul represented the case to him, and on speaking to one or two other gentlemen, the impression was that it was a very desirable thing that the new representative should, if possible, be a person in a similar position to himself, namely, a business man. For that reason he was before the electors. It seemed to him that every one, when he considered a particular question, did so from his own standpoint, a lawyer looking at it from a legal point of view, and the property owner from the point of view as to whether the value of property would be affected. As head of a firm here, his interests were entirely coincident with the interest of all other merchants, and the knowledge he had gained in business would enable him to consider how proposals were likely to affect the commercial prosperity of the Colony. Again, as a director of certain companies here, other interests were brought very closely under his notice such as the important question of property. On all matters which in any way affected the values and interests of property, from the experience he had gained in his connection with public companies, he thought he could claim that he could give a proper opinion. As regards the Colony's shipping interests there again he had experience which would enable him to look at it from a proper point of view, both in his own business and as Lloyd's agent here. He had no connection outside the Colony which would in any way bias his opinion or possibly force him to decide in a manner which was not entirely in accord with the needs of the Colony. There was another point which he thought he should be able to offer an opinion upon, and that was the annually recurring question of finance. He thought there could be little doubt that on a point like that a merchant's opinion was likely to be of most value. For these reasons he now came before them to ask for their support and he could assure them if they elected him, all his best efforts would be used to forward their interests in the Council, and he thought that from his position he would be well able to judge and understand all questions coming before the Council (applause).

Mr. A. G. Wood submitted the name of Mr. E. A. Hewett for the vacancy. Mr. Hewett was well known to them all, and it was not necessary to enlarge on Mr. Hewett's qualifications for the position.

Mr. Mitchell seconded the proposal. He did not think a better man could be found to represent them.

MR. HEWETT'S ADDRESS.

Mr. Hewett said he would like in the first place to cordially endorse the remarks made by Mr. Smith with regard to the very great regret the Justices of the Peace of this Colony experienced by the retirement of Sir Paul Chater after so many years representing that important body (applause). It was usual on such an occasion as that for the candidate who came before them to make some statement as to what he believed to be his qualifications, and, if called upon, to reply to any questions which the electors might wish to put to him. He might say he had had the audacity to offer himself as a candidate because he believed that his past experience had fitted him for the important position which he sought. It was 26 years since he had first arrived in the Colony, and during that period he had been a resident here for ten years. With the exception of two brief visits home, he had spent the rest of that time in China or Japan. But having regarded Hongkong as his destination he had always kept well in touch with all that was passing here. He did not wish to wave a red rag before them—he did not wish to suggest they were bulls, unless they were to boost him up to the top of the poll (laughter)—but he felt he must refer to the five years' municipal experience which he had had in Shanghai, and he should perhaps remind them of what that experience amounted to. It meant the control of a large police force of 800, a large volunteer force, a volunteer fire brigade, a municipal gaol, a complete works department, sanitary and medical departments, a form of regulations which were practically the equivalent of our local Ordinances, and all questions, great and small, including also extensive finance, which must relate to an important community representing 8,000 Europeans and 400,000 Chinese. For two years he had been on the Hongkong Sanitary Board, and for many years he had been closely connected with educational establishments, both here and elsewhere. He had served on the Governing Body of Queen's College and on the board of the Diocesan School. Moreover, he had been closely connected with the various Chambers of Commerce in the leading ports of this part of the world, and he considered that he was fairly entitled to assert that he had obtained a very varied and extensive experience which must be of very great use in whatever position he occupied. In his own business, and as chairman of the Chamber of Commerce it had been his business to make himself acquainted with all questions affecting the interests of Hongkong; such as the Kowloon railway, the fiscal question, the water supply, the sanitary question and the numberless questions which must arise in such an important community as this. With regard to the fiscal question he had been fortunate when on his recent visit to England to express what he believed to be the views of the Colony on that subject in a quarter where he believed his representations had had some effect. It had been urged that he did not properly represent Hongkong, but he failed to understand how such a suggestion could apply to him. It was over 61 years since the P. and O. Company first dispatched a steamer to Hongkong, and so long as that company existed, so long must their interests be closely bound up with Hongkong, whose growing importance was every day increasing. For very nearly 30 years he had been in the employ of the P. and O. and he intended with luck to serve them for another 30 years. And he hoped during that considerable period to devote his attention to promoting the interests of Hongkong, whether he happened to be resident there or not (applause). He had heard a rumour the other day to the effect that he was going home, but he wished them to understand that were that true he would not have appeared before them that day. He had only just returned from a visit home, and he hoped to spend many years in Hongkong before going home again. They were all busy men, and their flights were taken up by their business. He possibly had as much leisure as most men, and he could assure them that public work being his hobby, he gladly seized any opportunity of working for what he believed to be the public good. That being so, if they did him the honour to elect him as their representative to the Legislative Council, he could assure them that his time and strenuous endeavours would be devoted to the furtherance of the interests which he was sure they all had at heart (applause). He came before them as an entirely independent candidate. He had actually the temerity to put himself before them on his own initiation. As he had said, it had always been his desire to work for the public good. The rule he had set before himself in public positions which he had filled, was to do, without fear or favour, the greatest good for the greatest number (applause). He did not seek that position for the sake of the honour which it conferred, although that was unquestionably very great; but he came forward because he was honestly certain that he was qualified to fill the post. If they elected him he would do what he believed to be his duty in looking after their interests to the full (applause).

HON. MR. GERSHOM STEWART'S ADDRESS.

The Hon. Mr. Gershom Stewart said his duty that day sat lightly on his shoulders as the candidate whom he recommended them to elect to the position, Mr. H. E. Pollock, was already well and favourably known to them (applause). The interest which had been evinced in the election and the attendance there that day were sufficient answer to those who held the opinion that they were so engrossed in the pursuit of money or the pursuit of pleasure that they had no time to take any interest in their public affairs when they had the opportunity of so doing (hear, hear). Three gentlemen had offered themselves for election that day, all of high character and recognised ability; but as it was a physical impossibility for three men to occupy one vacant chair the invidious process of making a selection was forced on those present. He thought they owed a debt of gratitude to the three gentlemen for their public spirit in coming forward (applause). He felt sure he expressed their views when he said that the defeated would share with the victor, whoever he might be, the respect and esteem of their fellow-citizens (applause). It was not for him, situated as he was, to enlarge on the sterling qualities of the two gentlemen with whom he was in temporary opposition; but he would be wrong if he did not endeavour to enlarge upon the good points which clustered round the candidate in whom he was now interested. Mr. Pollock's record was well-known to all in the Colony, and his work would speak for itself. He was a recognised authority at the Sanitary Board, and he had already had several years' experience on the Legislative Council. He was for a number of years acting Attorney General, and as the temporary representative of the Chamber of Commerce he was a most useful critic of any laws laid upon the table. It might be said that his being a lawyer was somewhat of an objection against his representing a body such as theirs, but his answer was that Mr. Pollock in the exercise of his profession was brought into contact with their commercial life at all points, and should any necessity arise for obtaining special advice on any particular subject, he was sure the expert opinion of the Colony would be placed at his disposal. The fact that he was connected with no particular branch of commerce seemed rather in his favour as he would be able to hold the scales of Justice when any particular question of legislation arise. They all felt great regret that Sir Paul Chater was not going to represent them again. The Council would be much poorer for the loss of his mature wisdom and ripe experience, and he would ask those present to think—in a place like this where it was difficult to obtain continuity—would it not be wise to fill the place of their veteran by a tried and trained successor. They had in Mr. Pollock a trusty knight who had carried himself well in many a combat. When he had to draw the sword in contention he had wielded it with vigour and success. That sword was there, keen, of true temper, reliable as ever. It was ready to their hand if they chose to wield it. Let them think well before they threw it down to draw an untried weapon. There was an old proverb that a bird in the hand was worth two in the bush. He would not allude to Mr. Pollock as a bird although sometimes he might justify the simile—(laughter). But in Mr. Pollock they had a good man who offered to serve them and it was within the bounds of possibility that they might go further and fare worse. He thought it was right, and the other candidates showed their sense of fairness in the matter, in allowing Mr. Pollock to speak last, because he would have been at a disadvantage in so far that when he entered the electoral field the harvest had already to a certain extent been gathered by an early and energetic canvass on the part of those who opposed him. He appeared in the field somewhat in the position of a gleaner. When he started in, he got encouragement, and when the votes came to be counted they hoped his sheaf would be as large, or even larger, than those who got there earlier and gathered in the corn (applause). The best way of obtaining satisfactory legislation was to pass it through the crucible of free discussion. Should any quest on arise in the future requiring argument, the debating power of the unofficial side of the Council would be much strengthened if they sent Mr. Pollock forward as their representative (applause) as he had proved himself a skilful debater and a fearless critic. He had much pleasure in proposing that Mr. Pollock was a fit and proper person to represent the Justices of the Peace in the Legislative Council of this Colony (apolause).

Mr. Playfair seconded. He did so with the greatest pleasure because it was his firm conviction that Mr. Pollock was a long way the best of the whole three (laughter). The qualifications of Mr. Pollock entitled him to their votes and their suffrages. He spoke with a little experience because he had represented them himself some years ago. He was perfectly certain they would be doing right if they sent Mr. Pollock to the Legislative Council (applause).

MR. POLLOCK'S ADDRESS.

Mr. Pollock, who was received with loud applause, said he was quite sure a great many would sympathise with him in the fact that he was the last candidate in the field in this election. When he mentioned his candidature to certain gentlemen they told him they were very sorry, as they had already promised their votes under the impression that there were two candidates. He hoped those had their votes somewhat premature[ly, under an erroneous impression, would by the light of these altered circumstances see fit to reconsider their decision. He was sure all deplored the retirement of Sir Paul Chater, and he thought he was correct in saying that when Sir Paul informed some of them of his retirement, he also told them almost a multaneously, in the same breath, that he proposed to nominate Mr. Slade as his successor, but the speaker was quite sure that he should have Sir Paul with him in the principle of a fair and open field for everybody (hear, hear). Such a principle had been the corner stone of our Empire, and one of the bulwarks of our commercial success. He had not intended to address the electors on the subject of personal qualifications, but as the others had done so, he should set his views before them. It seemed to him that the two most important qualifications of a representative of the Colony on the Council were: firstly, that he should be accustomed to public speaking, and secondly, that he should have some knowledge of the proper and correct method of drafting laws, and especially that he should be a competent man to judge of the effect proposed legislation was likely to have upon the commercial and other interests of the colony. It was true that in commercial matters he could not claim the expert knowledge possessed by Mr. Slade; neither in shipping matters could he claim a knowledge such as Mr. Hewett's. But if ever he found himself in any difficulty whatever regarding these subjects he would at once ask the advice of the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce, and he was quite sure from his previous experience of them, when he had the honour of being their representative on the Council, such advice would at all times be most freely accorded. He would next make a few remarks on certain subjects which should be brought forward by their representative at the Legislative Council. In the first place it seemed to him that there was a necessity for increased vigour in the prosecution of public works (hear, hear). The completion of the new Post Office was urgently required; so also was the increase to the water storage (applause). Another point which required attention was the question of the conservancy of the roads; he was quite sure no one was satisfied with their condition when the weather was at all moist. He would also direct attention, if elected, to the necessity for increasing the efficiency of the fire extinguishing appliances. Nothing could be more wasteful than where valuable goods were consumed by fire. Some of them might remember that he brought forward at a recent meeting of the Sanitary Board the suggestion that an arrangement should be come to by which this Colony, when the number of cases of plague dropped, should be declared to be no longer infected (hear, hear). If that suggestion were adopted it would have a very marked effect upon the issue of Bills of Health. It was only logical inasmuch as when there were only a few cases of plague in the spring we were not considered infected. The same principle should apply when the cases of plague dwindled down to practically nothing. Another thing urgently required was the provision of a new and much larger typhoon shelter. All knew what occurred directly the red signal was hoisted; Chinese sampans, junks and cargo boats rushed into the far too limited accommodation at Causeway Bay for fear of being crowded out, and the whole of the shipping was at a standstill. Such a matter required to be urgently remedied. They would have perhaps noticed that quite recently the Government had abolished the Trust for the resumption of insanitary properties. A scheme was inaugurated by Mr. May some time ago for laying aside so much of the revenue for this purpose. He considered it most proper that that Trust should be continued, and was wholly opposed to the action of the Government in abolishing it. If the revenue for any particular year was too small to provide the necessary funds, there should not be the smallest difficulty in procuring the necessary money for such a needed improvement for the public good. Another very important point which to a certain extent was connected with sanitation, was the question of the Government instructing Chinese tenants in this Colony in the principles of sanitation and cleanliness in their homes. A great deal was heard of the prosecutions of tenants for breaches of the law, but surely it was better to bring home to them the importance of cleanliness rather than bringing such prosecutions, the importance of which they could not appreciate. Here was a fine field for labour. Surely it was far more important to instruct the people on the principles of sanitation than to consider whether it was better to teach the Chinese more English or more Chinese than at present. Bring before them the importance of sanitation, for there he believed lay the future salvation of the sanitary system. There was no use in saying that a back courtyard was to be opened up to the sky if the tenant did not understand the necessity of keeping it open. With reference to the Kowloon-Canton railway, if elected he would, to the best of his power, urge the speedy construction of that much needed work; because he felt convinced that it was necessary that we should be in touch with the markets of China if this Colony is to safeguard and secure the proud and eminent position which it now holds. He could only say in conclusion that if the electors should honour him with their confidence, he purposed at all times to promote the public interests of the Colony (applause).

The ballot was then taken, and the Returning Officer read out the result as follows:—

Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C.	40
Mr. H. W. Slade	23
Mr. E. A. Hewett	20

Mr. Pollock acknowledged the honour conferred upon him by the unofficial Justices of the Peace and the proceedings ended.

FORTHCOMING RACES.

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME.

21st inst.

The official programme for the forthcoming races has been issued. As already announced in the *Hongkong Telegraph*, they will take place on the 1st, 2nd and 3rd March next. The events for each of the three days are as follows:—

1.—THE WONG-NEI-CHONG STAKES.—Value $250. Second to receive $100; and third $50. For China ponies subscription griffins of this season 1905-1906. Weight for inches as per scale. Jockeys who have never had a winning mount allowed 5 lb. Entrance $10. Half a mile.

2.—THE VICTORIA STAKES.—A sweepstakes of $10 each with $300 added. Second to receive $100; and third $50. For China ponies. Weight for inches as per scale. *Bona fide* griffins on date of entry allowed 5 lb. Subscription griffins of this season 1905-1906 allowed 10 lb. One mile.

3.—THE VALLEY STAKES.—A sweepstakes of $10 each with $300 added. Winner to receive 70 per cent. Second 20 per cent.; and third 10 per cent. For China ponies subscription griffins of this season 1905-1906. Weight for inches as per scale. Three quarters of a mile.

4.—THE MAIDEN STAKES.—Value $500. Second to receive $150; and third $50. For China ponies *bona fide* griffins on date of entry. Weight for inches as per scale. Subscription griffins of this season 1905-1906 allowed 7 lb. Entrance $10. Three quarters of a mile.

5.—THE FOOCHOW CUP.—Value $300. Second to receive $100; and third $50. For China ponies. Weight for inches as per scale. Ponies who have run at any previous meeting and not won a race and griffins allowed 5 lb. Subscription griffins of this season 1905-1906 allowed 7 lb. Jockeys who have never had a winning mount allowed 5 lb. Entrance $10. Two miles.

6.—THE GARRISON CUP.—Presented by the officers of the Garrison. Second to receive $150; and third $50. For China ponies *bona fide* griffins on date of entry. Weight for inches as per scale. Subscription griffins of this season 1905-1906 allowed 7 lb. extra. Jockeys who have never had a winning mount allowed 5 lb. Entrance $10. From the two-mile post once round and in.

7.—THE CHINESE CLUB CUP.—Presented. Second to receive $100; and third $50. For China ponies subscription griffins of any season. Weight for inches as per scale. Winners at previous meetings barred; previous winners at this meeting 7 lb. extra. Jockeys who have never had a winning mount allowed 5 lb. Entrance $10. One mile.

8.—THE LUSITANO CUP.—Presented by the members of the Club Lusitano. For China ponies *bona fide* griffins on date of entry. Second to receive $100; and third $50. Weight for inches as per scale. Subscription griffins of this season 1905-1906 allowed 7 lb. Previous winners 7 lb. extra. Entrance $10. One mile.

9.—THE HONGKONG CLUB CUP.—Presented by the members of the Hongkong Club. Second to receive $150; and third $50. For China ponies. Weight for inches as per scale. Griffins allowed 5 lb. Subscription Griffins of this season 1905-1906 allowed 10 lb. Previous winners at this meeting 5 lb. extra. Entrance $15. One mile and a half.

10.—THE COMMODORE'S CUP.—Presented by Commodore Charles G. Dicken, R.N. Second to receive $100; and third $50. For China ponies subscription griffins of this season 1905-1906. Weight for inches as per scale. Previous winners barred. Unplaced runners and jockeys who have never had a winning mount allowed 5 lb. Allowances accumulative. Entrance $10. Five furlongs.

SECOND DAY.

Friday, 2nd March, 1906.

1.—THE JOCKEY CUP.—Value $250. Second to receive $100; and third $50. For China ponies subscription griffins of any season. To be ridden by Jockeys who have not had more than two winning mounts previous to this meeting in Hongkong or China. Weight for inches as per scale. Previous winners barred. Entrance $10. Once round.

2.—THE EXCHANGE PLATE.—Value $1,000. Presented by the bankers and exchange brokers of Hongkong. Second to receive $150; and third $50. For China ponies. Weight for inches as per scale. Previous winners at this meeting of one race 7 lb. extra; of two or more races 10 lb. extra. Griffins allowed 5 lb. Subscription griffins of this season 1905-1906 allowed 10 lb. Unplaced runners allowed 5 lb. Entrance $15. From the two-mile post once round and in.

3.—THE HONGKONG DERBY.—A sweepstakes of $20 each with $1,500 added. (Half forfeit if declared on or before day of closing entries) For China ponies *bona fide* griffins on date of entry. First pony to receive 70 per cent.; second 20 per cent.; and third 10 per cent. Weight for inches as per scale. One mile and a half. (Nominations to close to the Clerk of the Course at the Hongkong Club House on Saturday, 6th January, 1906)

4.—THE GERMAN CUP.—Presented by members of the Club Germania. Second to receive $150; and third $50. For China ponies subscription griffins of this season 1905-1906. Weight for inches as per scale. Entrance $10. One mile and a quarter.

5.—THE GOLD COAST CUP.—Presented by His Excellency Sir Matthew Nathan, K.C.M.G. Second to receive $100; and third $50. For China ponies. Weight for inches as per scale. Previous winners at this meeting of one race 7 lb. extra; of two or more races 10 lb. extra. Griffins allowed 5 lb. Subscription griffins of seasons 1904-1905 and 1905-1906 allowed 10 lb. Entrance $10. Five furlongs.

6.—THE PROFESSIONAL CUP.—Presented. Second to receive $100; and third $50. For griffins on date of entry and ponies that have never won a race; subscription griffins of this season 1905-1906 allowed 5 lb. weight for inches as per scale; previous winners barred. Jockeys who have never had a winning mount allowed 5 lb. Entrance $10. One mile.

7.—THE CHALLENGE CUP.—Value one hundred guineas. For China ponies; a forced entry of $10 each, but optional to China ponies subscription griffins of this or previous seasons. Weight for inches as per scale. To be won two years consecutively by a pony or ponies the *bona fide* property of the same owner or owners. Winner to receive $300 and 70 per cent, second $100 and 20 per cent., and third $50 and 10 per cent., of the entrance fees until the cup is finally won, when the second pony will receive 75 per cent., and third pony 25 per cent., of the entrance fees. One mile and three quarters.

8.—THE PARSEE CUP.—Presented by the Parsee community. Value $350. Second to receive $100; and third $50. For China ponies subscription griffins of this season 1905-1906. Weight for inches as per scale. Winner of the German Cup 10 lb. extra. Other winners 7 lb. extra. Entrance $10. From the two-mile post once round and in.

9.—THE NAVY CUP.—Presented by the officers of His Majesty's fleet. Second to receive $150; and third $50. For China ponies *bona fide* griffins on date of entry. Weight for inches as per scale. Winners of one race at this meeting 7 lb. extra; of two or more races 10 lb. extra. Unplaced runners allowed 5 lb. Entrance $10. One mile and a quarter.

10.—THE GYMKHANA CLUB CUP.—Value £50. Presented by the member of the Gymkhana Club; second to receive $100; and third $50. For all China ponies that have been in the Colony prior to September 1st 1905, and subscription griffins of this season 1905-1906. Weight to st. 8 lb. Winners of an open race 7 lb. extra; of a subscription griffins race 2 lb. extra; subscription griffins of this season 1905-1906 allowed 7 lb. Previous winners at this meeting barred. Jockeys who have never had a winning mount allowed 5 lb. Entrance $10. Three quarters of a mile.

THIRD DAY.

Saturday, 3rd March, 1906.

1.—THE GRAND STAND STAKES.—Value $400. Second to receive $100; and third $50. For China ponies *bona fide* griffins on date of entry. Winners of one race 5 lb. extra; of two or more races 10 lb. extra; subscription griffins non-winners allowed 5 lb. entrance $10. Three quarters of a mile.

2.—THE GREAT SOUTHERN STAKES.—Value $500; second to receive $150; and third $50. For China ponies. Weight for inches as per scale. Previous winners at this meeting of one race 7 lb. extra; of two or more races 10 lb. extra; unplaced runners allowed 5 lb. griffins allowed 5 lbs.; subscription griffins of seasons 1904-1905 and 1905-1906 allowed 10 lb. Allowances accumulative. Entrance $10. One mile.

3.—THE GOVERNOR'S CUP.—Presented by His Excellency Sir Matthew Nathan, K.C.M.G. Second to receive $100; and third $50. For China ponies subscription griffins of this season 1905-1906. Weight for inches as per scale. Winner of the German Cup 7 lb. extra; non-winners placed ponies allowed 3 lb.; unplaced runners allowed 5 lb. Entrance $10. One mile and a half.

4.—THE LADIES' PURSE.—Presented. Second to receive $150; and third $50. For China ponies. Weight for inches as per scale. Winners at this meeting other than subscription griffins 5 lb. extra; unplaced runners and jockeys who have never had a winning mount allowed 5 lb. Allowances accumulative. Entrance $10. Once round.

5.—THE FLYAWAY STAKES.—Value $400. Second to receive $100; and third $50. For China ponies *bona fide* griffins on date of entry. Weight for inches as per scale. Winners of one race 5 lb. extra; and of three or more races 10 lb. extra. Jockeys who have never had a winning mount allowed 5 lb. Entrance $10. Seven furlongs.

6.—THE PHAETHON STAKES.—Handicap. Value $350. Second to receive $100; and third $50. For China ponies that have been in the Colony prior to 1st September, 1905, and griffins on date of entry. Previous winners and non-starters at this meeting barred. Entrance $10. One mile and a quarter.

7.—THE CONSOLATION STAKES.—A Sweepstakes of $10 each with $200 added. Second to receive $100; and third $50. For China ponies that have run and not won at this meeting. Weight for inches as per scale. Jockeys who have never had a winning mount allowed 5 lb. Three quarters of a mile.

8.—THE HONGKONG STAKES.—Value $500. Second to receive $150; and third $50. A forced entry for China ponies subscription griffins of this season 1905-1906. Weight for inches as per scale. Winner of the German Cup 7 lb. extra; non-winners placed ponies allowed 3 lb.; unplaced runners allowed 5 lb. Entrance $10. One mile and a half.

9.—THE CHAMPION STAKES.—With $500 added. Second to receive $250; and third $100. For China ponies winners at this meeting only. A forced entry. Entrance $20. Winners of two races $50; of three or more races $50. Weight for inches as per scale. One mile and a quarter.

10.—THE NIL DESPERANDUM STAKES.—A sweepstakes of $5 with $350 added. Second to receive $100; and third $50. For China ponies subscription griffins of this season 1905-1906 that have run and not won at this meeting. Weight for inches as per scale. Jockeys who have never had a winning mount allowed 5 lb. Five furlongs.

SIR CURRIMBHOY EBRAHIM.

A LIFE-SKETCH.

Currimbhoy Ebrahim, the proprietor of the local firm of E. Pabaney and the owner of the firms of this name at Kobe, Japan, Shanghai, Singapore, Calcutta and Bombay, was one of the lucky few who had the honour of being knighted by His Royal Highness, the Prince of Wales, during His Highness's recent visit to Bombay. A brief life-sketch of this enterprizing Indian merchant appears in the columns of *The Times of India*, Bombay, of the 22nd, ult., from which we cull the following particulars, which interest our readers.

Sir Currimbhoy Ebrahim belongs to the enterprizing Khoja community of Western India and several generations of his forefathers have been business men and merchants. Born in 1840, Sir Currimbhoy is the youngest son of Mr. Ebrahim Pabaney, a merchant of Cutch, whose ships plied from Mandwi to Arabia and Zanzibar and who traded between Cutch and Bombay. Currimbhoy inherited wonderful business instinct, keen foresight, sound judgment, rare decision of character and firm resolution. He started his business early, when he was merely 16. Foreseeing huge possibilities in the Far Eastern trade, as early as the fifties, he opened a firm in Hongkong and named it after his father. Success in this enterprize led him to open firms in other places. He rose bit by bit until now that his are acknowledged to be the leading firms trading between India, Straits, China and Japan.

Sir Currimbhoy was the last man to rest contented with the mere handling of import and export business. In 1888, he set up the Currimbhoy Mills. Later, he established Mohamadbhoi Mills; and, still later, in 1895, he started the Ebrahim Pabaney Mills. At present, his mills are providing the daily bread of 5,000 people, and are admirably managed and sound business concerns.

Sir Currimbhoy is an extremely busy man; but, so admirably he husbands his time that amidst so very arduous career even, he finds time and has the will to do his level best for the country and community which gave him birth. A girls and a boys school in Mandvi, the Currimbhoy Ebrahim Khoja Orphanage, Bombay, several Dharamsalas (free inns) in Mundvi and Bhuj, in Cutch, and a host of other such institutions have been established and are being supported by him. Besides, his extensive private charity has been known to relieve numberless needy people of all creeds and communities.

Such sterling merits as these, seldom, if ever, go unrewarded. In Bombay, Sir Currimbhoy is one of the most popular men. The Government, in recognition of his public services, made him a J. P., as early as 1883. Sometime back he was nominated as a Trustee for the Port of Bombay; while quite recently, the honour of Knighthood has been conferred on him. The Mahomedan community does him great honour; he is the vice-president of Anjuman-i-Islam, the late Mahomedan Educational Conference of Bombay.

Sir Currimbhoy Ebrahim is a Mason and has always upheld the traditions of the craft.

Sir Currimbhoy's family life is happy and he is blessed with intelligent, capable and public-spirited children. Two of his elder sons are J. P.'s and members of the Bombay Corporation, while the eldest has recently been taken on the Standing Committee in recognition of arduous and useful labours, as a City Father.

Men of the stamp of Sir Currimbhoy Ebrahim raise the country and community which give them birth. People of all communities have been exceedingly glad to hear of the honour of knighthood having been conferred upon Currimbhoy Ebrahim.—*Communicated.*

THE Russian Volunteer Fleet steamer *Kostroma* arrived at Nagasaki on the 15th inst. for repairs. She left Vladivostock for Yokohama on the 8th inst. with a large quantity of clothing for the use of the Russian prisoners of war. A call was made at Moji on the 11th inst. for coaling. While in the harbour there she collided with the Japanese steamer *Kenkyusha* and sustained some slight damage, necessitating her going to Nagasaki for repairs. From information obtained from the Japanese it is apparent that order has been completely restored at Vladivostock. When she left there the cruiser *Rossia* and [illegible] were in the harbour.

CRIMINAL SESSIONS.

MANSLAUGHTER.

18th inst.

His Honour, Sir Francis Piggott, Chief Justice, this morning opened the monthly sessions, the first case to be tried being one of manslaughter in which Wong Sing, a chair coolie was indicted on the charge of the manslaughter of one Wong Pak, a washerman, at Kowloon City on the 6th November, 1905.

Prisoner pleaded not guilty, and said that his clansmen had engaged counsel to defend him, but the latter was not present.

The following jurymen were empanelled: Carl Schlütter, (Foreman), A. J. Williams, Chan Pak, Alfred Sheffield, J. D. Auld, A. J. Ward, and H. G. Simms. Sir Henry Berkeley, Attorney-General, instructed by Mr. F. B. L. Bowley, Crown Solicitor, prosecuted, and stated briefly that on the 6th November last the deceased, carrying a bundle of linen knocked against prisoner, who thereupon seized a bamboo pole and struck the deceased with such force as to cause him to succumb to his injuries that night.

Evidence was taken.

Having heard the evidence the jury returned a unanimous verdict of guilty, and the prisoner was sentenced to three years' hard labour.

DETAINING FOR RANSOM.

Yeung Ho *alias* Yeung Pat, and Kwok Yun, were put on trial for illegally detaining Chan Kam and others, from the 15th to 26th November, 1905, imprisoned in huts at Yaumati with the object of obtaining ransom for their release.

The following jurymen were empanelled: B. H. Mehta (Foreman), Hermann Ehmer, Jacob Jebsen, Emil Adolf Schröder, J. Owen Hughes, Kelly Sayce, and James Little.

Sir Henry Berkeley, Attorney General, instructed by Mr. G. E. Morrell, of the Crown Solicitor's office, prosecuted, the prisoners being undefended. They pleaded not guilty. Evidence of the detained men, farm labourers, was given.

His Honour, the Chief Justice intimated to the jury that there was no case against the first prisoner, and the jury agreeing, returned a verdict of not guilty against him, and he was accordingly discharged. With regard to the second prisoner he was given seven years.

ARSON.

19th inst.

The Criminal Sessions were continued this morning, His Honour, Sir Francis Piggott, Chief Justice, presiding, when Kwok Fat, and Li Kat Hin were indicted on the charge of feloniously setting fire to the premises No. 462, Des Vœux Road, with intent to defraud the Prussian National Insurance Company, of which Messrs. Meyer and Company are the local agents, and the Meiji Insurance Company, of which the Mitsui Busan Kaisha are the local agents, with which companies the premises and contents were insured jointly for the sum of $27,000. Sir Henry Berkeley, Attorney-General, instructed by Mr. H. H. J. Hursthouse, of the Crown Solicitor's office, prosecuted, and Mr. W. Slade, instructed by Mr. O. D. Thomson, appeared for the prisoners, who pleaded not guilty.

The following jurymen were empanelled:—Messrs. William J. Croulford (Foreman); Harry Hodge, Henry W. B. Kennett, Francis Campbell, John T. MacGregor, John I. Andrew, and Frank O. Reynolds. Chun Tee Yin was called, but was challenged by the Attorney-General, while Messrs. H. C. Broedissen, and B. T. Captain, being both interested in insurance companies, were released from attendance in this case.

The Attorney-General, briefly stating the case, said that the first prisoner was a *koki* in the employ of the second prisoner who was the principal proprietor of the premises in question.

The fire broke out at 2 a.m. on the 22nd November last, and the evidence would show that the fire broke out in five different places, the whole place, on the arrival of the Fire Brigade, being in flames and smelling strongly of kerosene oil, which would go to show that the place had been deliberately set on fire with the object of obtaining the insurance money amounting to $27,000 by defrauding the insurance companies mentioned. Evidence was taken and the men were eventually sent to prison for five years.

MURDER.

20th inst.

Upon resuming the Criminal Sessions this morning, His Honour, Sir Francis Piggott, Chief Justice, presiding; Mowas Kahn, Rohum Deen and Kanj Mulla, were indicted on the charge of wilfully, maliciously and of malice aforethought, slaying and killing one Mustof Khan on the 23rd November, 1905.

Sir Henry Berkeley, Attorney-General, instructed by Mr. G. E. Morrell, of the Crown Solicitor's office, prosecuted, Hon. Dr. Ho Kai, instructed by Mr. O. D. Thomson appeared for the first and second defendants, and Mr. C. G. Calthrop also instructed by Mr. O. D Thomson appeared for the third defendant.

The following jurymen were impannelled, Messrs. Harry Hodge (Foreman), Berent Dirk Kapteyn, Jacob Jebsen, James D. Auld, H. C. Heinrich Brodessen, W. Leonard Carter, and Arthur J. Williams.

Prisoners pleaded not guilty.

The Attorney General briefly stated that, on the morning of the 24th November, a large trunk was found floating in the harbour off Lai-chikok, and upon being opened it was found to contain the dead body of an Indian, Mustaf Khan, which it had been subsequently discovered, bore a bullet wound over the left eye, the bullet being found in the brain. Deceased was in the habit of taking big food in a matshed with the three prisoners, and they were arrested that evening on suspicion, as it was found that they had hired a sampan to [illegible] They subsequently returned without the trunk which was found as described.

At 6.50 p.m., the jury impannelled returned a verdict of not guilty against all the three prisoners, who were consequently discharged by his Honour, Sir Francis Piggott, Chief Justice.

SUIT FOR RENT.

THE JUDGMENT.

21st inst.

In the Court of Summary Jurisdiction to-day, His Honour Mr. A. G. Wise, Puisne Judge, delivered judgment in the action brought at the instance of the Robinson Piano Company against Messrs. H. Price & Co., wine merchants, Queen's Road Central, for the recovery of $375 being the rent for premises in Connaught House Hotel from 10th October to 9th November last inclusive.

Mr. M. W. Slade, instructed by Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist, appeared for the plaintiffs; Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., instructed by Mr. M. J. D. Stephens, represented the defendants.

His Honour said—In this action the plaintiffs claim $375, being the amount due for a month's rent from the 10th October, 1905, to the 9th November, 1905, for the eastern hall of the ground floor of the Connaught House Hotel, from the defendants to the plaintiffs. The original contract was contained in two letters, the first of which was as follows:—

"3rd January, 1905.

"The Robinson Piano Co., Hongkong.

Dear Sirs,—We beg to make you a firm offer to lease the premises in Connaught House Buildings now occupied by you for the balance of your lease (about four years and ten months, dating from 1st January, 1905) at a rental of Mexican $9,000 (nine thousand) per annum inclusive of taxes, occupation to commence from the date you vacate them.

"We understand that you will at your own expense partition the premises and on completion of same we will occupy the vacated half at a proportionate rental. Also that the whole premises will be painted and colour-washed throughout, between this date and the time we occupy them.—Yours faithfully,

"(Sd.) H. PRICE & CO."

The reply to that letter was in the following terms:—

"Hongkong, 4th January, 1905.

"Messrs. H. Price & Co.

"Dear Sirs,—We beg to accept your offer for the lease of these premises contained in yours of yesterday's date.

"The understanding is that the lease to you is contingent on our lease being completed, and that you accept the same terms and conditions. Also that you will not permit the premises to be used for any business similar to our own and will sign a lease if called on.—Yours faithfully,

"(Sd.) The Robinson Piano Co., Ltd.

"W. V. Robinson,

"General Manager."

Of course, if the matter stood there the plaintiffs are entitled to succeed, but the defendants state that the conditions of the contract have been varied, but I think on the evidence the difficulties with regard to the partition were got rid of. But the main point on which the defendants rely is this, that the date was fixed and it appears that a draft lease was prepared evidently under the instructions of the plaintiffs by the plaintiffs' solicitors, and forwarded to the defendants' solicitor and that draft lease refers to the whole of the premises and not part, and says the term is fixed from the 1st November. That is proved by the defendants' solicitor and also proved by the plaintiffs' solicitors, but it was never executed. It seems the whole point is that, because it was not executed the original contract was not varied. I must say I think that all parties were at one and were all agreed that the term should be the 1st November and therefore it does not seem to me it matters much whether it was executed or not. There was a former agreement that the original contract should be varied. The plaintiffs could not vacate on the 1st November or for a fortnight afterwards. That being so the defendants' solicitor said that if he could not get the whole premises he would repudiate the whole contract. Under the circumstances I think there was a form of variation and the original arrangement to vacate was not carried out. Therefore it seems to me the defendants are entitled to refuse to pay.

Judgment for defendants with costs.

CLAIM FOR LAND SOLD.

In Original Jurisdiction this morning, His Honour, Mr. A. G. Wise, Puisne Judge, presiding, Leung Pung sued Hing Chin Wah for $11,718.32, being the amount of purchase money for a piece of landed property in the New Territory, sold by plaintiff to defendant in January 1901.

Mr. M. W. Slade instructed by Mr. L. d'Almada e Castro, of Messrs. Bruton, Hett and Gedding's office, appeared for the plaintiff, the defendant not appearing either in person or by representation.

The plaintiff was called and proved the claim, and judgment was given for plaintiff with costs.

CORRESPONDENCE.

CANTON LEPER FUND.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH."

DEAR SIR,—I lease acknowledge the following to the Leper Fund and oblige.—Yours truly,

ANDREW BEATTIE.

Canton, December 18th, 1905.

Shameen Community—
Per Mrs. Russell & Mrs. Moorhead...$172

(We do not necessarily endorse the opinions expressed by Correspondents in this column.)

WANCHAI WATER SUPPLY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH."

DEAR SIR,—I am again about to trespass on your courtesy. On Monday last I sent you a letter under the heading of "Correspondence" relating to the water supply in the Wanchai District and you kindly laid the matter before the Public in the columns of your valuable paper the following day. I regret to say that the grievance still exists. I have had about ten gallons of water from the tap in my house since Thursday night December 14th. No more than that, and there are many more people in the neighbourhood in the same predicament as myself. I could give names if it would be any benefit, but I am afraid it would not; that it would simply be useless. There is a stand pipe at the top of St. Francis Street. I think it is ¾" bore and at 6.45 this morning I timed my boy drawing off one bucket of water from it. 2½ minutes exactly was taken to obtain it, and it must be borne in mind that there are hundreds besides myself who have to draw their supply of fresh water from the same source. It means that barely sufficient for culinary purposes is obtainable and not a drop for cleansing and other necessary purposes. Again if by some unforseen misfortune fire was to break out during the night, or at any time for that matter, the consequences would be most disastrous with the present high winds [illegible] any mind at all, it would mean not only loss of valuable property but probably serious loss of life. I am an old resident in the Colony and remember with what a flourish the Tytam waterworks scheme was carried out, also the grumbling of some at the enormous expense the Colony was put to by it, and it was said, "Oh, the Colony will now have such a supply of fresh water that we shall not want for evermore." To judge by the present time, Mr. Price, the then head of the P. W. D., did not spend enough money on the conservancy of water, and the grumblers, at that time, at the expense incurred were apparently all at sea in the matter. No sooner was the Tytam works completed than wells were closed and water carriers where thrown out of employment and had to adopt some other business. Everybody was smiling and congratulating each other on the new water supply. But what about it later and now? In the years gone by we at least got sufficient water for all purposes whatever the source may have been either from the wells or the mountain streams, and we were satisfied and happy with our lot. Now the want of water causes anxiety and trouble. Just think on returning home at night from a long, hard day, to be met at the door with the remark: "I have no water in the house, or only enough for cooking, and I want to have the floors washed and I have a lot of under clothing wants washing," or something to that effect. These things do not conduce to make home happy, but on the contrary cause discontent and a reviling of the powers that be. I am afraid that I have written a rather long screed and perhaps you will not care to publish it; but I feel deeply on the subject, and am not writing selfishly but for the good of many who like myself are suffering from the scarcity of water and who hope to have the grievance mitigated if not wholly removed, by making it public through your journal.—I am, etc.,

ONE OF THE MANY.

Hongkong, 23rd December.

[Seemingly, a grievance—no matter how generally it may be felt in the district—in Wanchai is not good enough for the Government. Wanchai taxpayers have yet to rise to the level of the self-constituted aristocracy of Hongkong. Let there be but a single plaint from the Peak, and Heaven and earth will be moved and the Council bestirred to get the grievance—real or imaginary—aright in less time than it takes to be heard.—Ed., *H. K. T.*]

"MAN'S INHUMANITY, ETC."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH."

SIR,—It may be as presumptuous as it is unusual for a layman to assail the administration of laws in Hongkong, but in very few words I would merely ask whether the authorities consider six hours' stocks on a raw winter day less barbarous than the Chinese cangue, as employed, say, in the Settlement of Shanghai, and sometimes in places under purely native jurisdiction.

The Sanitary Department is enrolled to launch out into heroic methods to combat the plague in one of its alleged breeding grounds, viz., dirt. Do they then see no inconsistency in an administration which condemns, very commonly now-a-days, the native culprit to sit in the germ-laden dust, summer or winter, when the cangue is more appropriate and has obvious advantages?—I am, etc.,

EASTERNER.

Hongkong, 22nd December, 1905.

ROBINSON, PIANO Co. *v.* H. PRICE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH."

DEAR SIR,—In your issue you report that the Robinson Piano Co. sued H. Price & Co. for rent.

The case was against Mr. Herbert Price personally and not against H. Price & Co.

I shall be obliged if you will draw the attention of you readers to this fact in your issue this evening.—Yours faithfully,

AHMET RUMJAHN.

Hongkong, 22nd December, 1905.

[We can only accept our Court Reporter's report of the case. Our Reporter accepted as accurate the documents which were submitted to the Court. The letter offering to lease the premises of the Robinson Piano Company was dated the 3rd January, 1905, and was subscribed "Yours faithfully, H. Price & Co."—Ed., *H. K. T.*]

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH."

DEAR SIR,—With reference to my letter of the 22nd inst., I am sure you would not have made the comments as you have done had you been in possession of the full facts of the case, or had you taken a little trouble to make an inquiry into the matter.

The letter (one of the documents) produced in Court and upon which you have founded your erroneous impression had been written by Mr. Price before he sold the business to me.

On reference to the writ of summons, the *Daily Press* of the 13th inst. and your other contemporaries of about the same date, you will find it stated that the suit has been brought against Mr. H. Price, described as lately carrying on business as a wine and spirit merchant *and not against H. Price & Co.* as affirmed by me.—Yours faithfully,

AHMET RUMJAHN.

[There is no erroneous impression in the case at all. The document as handed into Court and as reproduced in the columns of the *Hongkong Telegraph*, in the judgment referred to, and which, by the way, appears verbatim in the columns of our contemporaries, is distinctly signed by H. Price & Co., as negotiators for the lease of the premises from the Robinson Piano Co. It may enlighten Mr. Rumjahn to be informed that the *Telegraph* reporter was the only representative of the Press in Court when the judgment was delivered. It is no part of our Court Reporter's duty to inquire into the ownership of Messrs. H. Price & Co.'s business, or for the matter of that any other business. His duty is confined to the task he is set to perform, the discharge whereof we do not recognise Mr. Rumjahn's competence to call to question.—Ed., *H. K. T.*]

DEPARTURES FOR ENGLAND.

TROOPS' HOMEGOING.

Among those who left for Southampton, on the transport *Dunera*, yesterday, were Capt. M. L. McDonnell, Lieut. G. B. Macdonald, Major L. H. Parry and 219 men of the Royal Garrison Artillery; Major L. J. Dopping-Hepenstal, Major F. H. Le Breton Simmons and Lieut. H. F. Dankes and 35 N.C.O.'s and men of the Royal Engineers; Lieut. C. de H. C. Stevenson, Lieut. W. F. Helume and 184 N.C.O.'s and men of the 2nd R. W. Kent Regt.; Capt. E. C. L. Fitzwilliams, Lt. and Q.-M. T. Pesare, warrant officer and four N.C.O.'s of the Army Service Corps; Capts. F. W. Lambelle, E. V. Aylen, and J. S. Harvey, and 18 N.C.O.'s and men of the Royal Army Medical Corps; Lieut. Col. F. W. Bunny, Lieut. (A.C.O.) J. Embleton and foremen Blake and Hearle of the A. O. Department; three warrant officers, five N.C.O.'s and men of the A.O.C.; Colonel F. H. Haynes, of the A.P.D.; two N.C.O.'s of the A.P.C.; Lieut. F. C. Chandler, of the Army Schools; Lieut. W. H. Hodgson (129th Infantry); Major A. E. Hatch (129th Baluchis), and Lieut. C. B. Wahab (Chinese Regiment).

LUSITANO CLUB.

DRAMATIC PERFORMANCE.

22nd inst.

The members of the Sociedade Dramatica Portugueza gave their second performance at the Hall Luiz de Camoes in the Club Lusitano buildings last evening. The attendance of members was a fairly large one and considering the merit of each individual "artist" and the excellent staging of the plays, the members of the dramatic club deserved far better support. The principal play selected for the evening was Henrique Costa's dramatic comedy "Mysterios do Mundo" (*Mysteries of the World*), the principal rôle in which, *General Andrade*, was faithfully portrayed by Mr. M. T. Conceiçao. The caste was made up by Messrs. E. G. d'Aquino, C. A. Lopes, O. C. Ribeiro, J. S. Teixeira, J. G. d'Aquino, A. M. Alves, L. A. P. Leite and F. C. Ribeiro. Mr. Alves's impersonation of the girl *Carlota* was favourably commented upon.

The second part of the programme was opened by Mr. M. Conceicao with a recitation, which was followed by a farce, the scene being laid in Lisbon of the present day. An amusing musical sketch brought to a conclusion the pleasant entertainment of the evening.

A LIST of names is being prepared of the members of the Chinese Imperial Clan who desire to proceed abroad to Western countries for education, and who will be given a grant as support for their studies.

MARINE COURT.

JUNK-MASTER FINED.

21st inst.

In the Marine Court, before the Hon. Captain Barnes-Lawrence, Marine Magistrate, Mr. L. Rocha, Assistant Inspector of Junks, charged Kong Po, master of Junk No. 1, 302 H., with unlawfully disobeying the orders of the Harbour-master, in the waters of the Colony, on the 8th inst.

Prosecutor said that on the 8th inst., he received instructions to board the Chinese junk S. 302 H., of which the defendant is master, to examine whether he was carrying in excess of ammunition over and above the amount he was authorised to do. He thereupon went and informed the master of the said junk that he would make an examination of the vessel the same day, at 2 p.m. That notice was given in the office of the junk owner. When he went to make the examination of the junk he could not find her as she had gone away, out of the harbour. This morning he found her alongside the Praya at West Point, having returned to the harbour last evening, and he then arrested the master, and charged him with the disobedience of the lawful orders of the Harbour-master.

Other witnesses corroborated the last witness. Mok Kam Tsun said he was in charge of the junk, but was not the master, and was not aware of the order given by Mr. Rocha.

His Worship ordered the master to be sought, and produced and the case was adjourned for his appearance.

Upon resuming, the first witness said Kong Po, master of the junk, now in the Court was the man to whom he gave the order.

Kong Po admitted the charge, but said he disobeyed the order because the passengers would not let him wait.

He was fined $2, and cautioned.

MACAO NOTES.

[*From Our Own Correspondent.*]

Macao, 21st December, 1905.

EARTHQUAKE AGAIN.

It is 9 p.m. as I write. We have just had two distinct shocks of earthquake, preceded by two subterranean rumblings, the second premonitory report and shock were louder and more continuous than the first.

BELATED AID.

The gunboat *Rio Lima* left Macao for Shanghai this afternoon to protect the Portuguese subjects, of whom there are a great many in the Northern Settlement, and to look after Portuguese interests in consequence of the recent disturbances there. When is the vessel going to arrive at her destination? is the question that is generally put here in Macao. The gunboat is of such a diminutive type as to be little better than useless as a guardboat in the inner harbour of Macao. She is old, of slow speed and has to make the journey up north against a strong monsoon. It is very probable that the officials and crew of this tiny vessel will have a rough time in weathering the seas to reach her destination.

[The *Rio Lima* has not proceeded to Shanghai. She came to Hongkong and is now at Aberdeen dock.—Ed., *H.K.T.*]

THE MIXED COURT AFFAIR.

According to the different versions of the Mixed Court trouble as have appeared in the papers, I am inclined to the opinion that the Shanghai Taotai is absolutely correct in his attitude in the present matter. According to Treaty the Assessor has no right to interfere in questions where the litigants are Chinese subjects. I am afraid that if the doctrine of "Might is right" be allowed to prevail on all occasions, the policy might be fraught with many dangerous results.

CANTON NOTES.

[*From Our own Correspondent.*]

Canton, 18th December.

Consul-General and Mrs. Lay left for Hongkong this afternoon. Consul Lay has been working hard over the Lien Chau affair and now that the investigation has been completed and the finding of the American commissioners sent forward to Peking and Washington the Consul will rest for a few days spending Christmas in Hongkong.

ENTERTAINMENT.

I have just learned that the *Monadnock's* Minstrel and Vaudville Troupe will give a New Year's entertainment on Shameen some time about the beginning of the New Year. While the *Monadnock* was here in 1902 a similar entertainment was given and was very successful and highly entertaining.

REV. MR. HICKLING IN CANTON.

The Rev. Mr. Hickling will deliver his popular and instructive lecture on the "Midnight Sun" in the hall of the Medical College at the Kuk Fau to-morrow evening.

A ROW.

There was a grand exhibiton of a Chinese row in front of the Customs examination shed to-day at eleven o'clock. Some coolies had a difference in a chair shop and this led to words and words to blows. The police attempted to arrest a man and the other coolies interfered. In less than three minutes over three hundred men were on the spot. Most of them were armed with carrying poles and these were used freely. Men were felled, but were soon on their feet again. Bricks were thrown and men went down like logs. The police whistles were blown and after the men had a good fight the police were able to drive the crowd away. But as the police drove in one direction the crowd poured in from some other street. After a clearing was made one man was found unable to rise. He had a bad cut in the back of his neck and looked badly used up. The police succeeded in running in two or three men.

THE NORTH RIVER.

The North River is not as quiet as some people report it. At least Rev. Mr. Saunders has found this out. He was urged not to go to Yingtak at the present time, but he insisted that all was quiet and went. He has come back which reminds one of young hopeful who went west seeking gold. After a short absence this young man wrote to his father asking for a remittance. He wrote: "Dear Father, I have done well. I have a collar and a pair of shoes". The report that has reached Canton is to the effect that Mr. Saunders has the shoes but not the collar. He was set upon before he reached Yingtak and robbed of everything and then stripped of his clothes, but the robber kindly allowed him to retain his shoes. When Mr. Saunders reaches Canton he will at least have his experience with him.

BOYCOTT IN THE SCHOOLS.

[*From Our Correspondent.*]

Canton, 18th December.

One of the latest illustrations of the hold that the boycott has upon the people of all classes comes from the isolated little village of Sz Pai Lau where there is a school run in connection with one of the missionary societies with headquarters in Canton. At this Institution the average attendance has been upwards of 60 the scholars including a number of sons of the better class among whom were 15 pupils from official circles. During the past few months the attendance has dwindled down to something like 20, and now comes the news that the people of this village are refusing to permit their sons to buy any American books for use in the school, and are not permitting their children to attend the institution, as "it is run by Americans."

AMERICAN BOYCOTT.

The headquarters of the Canton Boycott Association at the Kwong Chai hospital have received a telegram from the San Francisco hinese stating that the American Congress has decided finally not to amend the Exclusion laws as they at present stand in the Statute books. Further news on the matter is awaited with interest in view of the fact that the boycotters at Canton declare that they have given no sanction whatever to abate or stop the boycott.

MISSIONARY ROBBED AND STRIPPED.

It seems unfortunate that more attention is not paid to the advice given by the various Consuls to those people for whom the representatives of their respective nations do so much. Immediately following the massacre of missionaries at Lien-chau and on account of the general state of unrest reported in the Two Kwang the missionaries engaged in work among the people of Kwangtung and Kwangsi were called in, those residing in out-stations being advised to proceed to headquarters and others being recalled to Canton. Acting on this a certain gentleman associated with a missionary station at Yingtak on the North River came down to Canton, and, although warned that it was inadvisable to return, went back to his station and now comes the report, through native sources, that he has been robbed by a gang of ruffians of his watch and ring and left exposed to the keen winds that blow across the mountains without a stitch of clothing. This is a lesson well taught.

HON. W. J. BRYAN IN CANTON.

The leader of American Democracy and twice candidate for Presidency, the Hon. W. J. Bryan, of the United States, accompanied by his wife and son and daughter arrived here at the close of last week. They spent the day in "doing the city" and towards the close of the afternoon called at the American Consulate-General and there met the Hon. Mr. J. G. Lay with whom Mr. Bryan consulted on the questions which are at present engaging the attention of the United States in the Orient. It is stated that the hon. gentleman contemplate writing a book from his impressions of the Far East and to this end he is making an elaborate collection of photographs.

HON. MR. F. D. CHESHIRE.

It is stated the Hon. F. D. Cheshire, who was formerly in charge of the U. S. Consulate-General at Canton and who on account of the recent war proceeded to take up his new appointment at Mukden, has been requisitioned to return to this city to assist Mr. Lay in a consultative and advisory capacity. Mr. Cheshire has an extensive knowledge of Chinese, and is well acquainted with Canton and the Cantonese.

ABSURD RUMOURS.

It is generally reported among the Chinese here or at least among the poorer and less enlightened classes that the American flour which has been brought into Canton is poisoned, and also that the American sailors when they come ashore seizes as many young Chinese girls as they can and after cutting off their queues take them away. This is not mere idle gossip, but is a statement that is going the rounds of the city and which is especially spread by the boat people.

CANTONESE DOCTOR HELD UP.

It has just transpired that a well-known Cantonese doctor, who was studying medicine under Dr. Kerr, some years back, has recently had an exciting experience in the Shun Tak district. For quite a long time he was carrying on practice in Lung Kin, some 25 miles from Canton, and five years ago moved to this city and opened a druggist store near the Canton Hospital. Since his return to this place he has been in the habit, on certain days of the month, of visiting his old village and selling drugs, and so on. A few days ago he was down there on one of his regular trips. While journeying in a small boat to one of the neighbouring villages he was set upon by a band of robbers who took him into one of their small boats and proceeded along a creek where they demanded $3,000 for his release. The doctor told them that it was useless to ask for such a large sum of money, and finally they agreed upon $150. They asked the old gentleman to write a letter to some person who would pay this amount, and he replied that he did not wish to send to the village of Lak Lau where he had been visiting and where his wife was, but that he would send a note to one of the neighbouring villages. The letter was written and one of the robbers himself took it and told how the doctor had been captured and eventually returned with the money, and the doctor was released.

CHINA AND SOUTH AFRICA.

One of the Cantonese papers has recently printed a cartoon illustrating the conditions under which the Chinese are alleged to be labouring in South Africa. In the background of the picture is a mountain on which Chinese are working with pick and shovel, while on either side and in the foreground can be seen representations of Chinese strung up by the queues and thumbs, upon whom foreigners are gazing with interest.

One of the leading members of the boycott committee in Canton is reported as declaring that if the merchants are successful with the boycotting of American goods attention will be directed against Great Britain with a view of securing free entry for the coolies into South Africa.

[*From Our Own Correspondent.*]

Canton, December 21st, 1905.

The death is announced of Mr. Chauncey Percival Staines, of Chicago, who, for some time past, had been employed as a watcher in the Imperial Maritime Customs at Canton. The deceased, who has only 24 years of age, was recently taken ill with dysentery, and as he grew worse he was sent to the Government Civil Hospital, at Hongkong. News of his death at that institution reached here to-day.

LECTURE.

The Rev. C. H. Hickling, of the Union Church, at Hongkong, who arrived here yesterday, and in the evening went to the headquarters of the American Presbyterian Mission and, in the theatre of the Medical Hall, delivered a lecture on the Land of the Midnight Sun. His remarks were illustrated by a series of excellent limelight views.

FORTHCOMING ENTERTAINMENT.

There are rumours in the air that in the near future a number of ladies and gentlemen intend giving an entertainment in the Shamien theatre, and are to be assisted by a troup of minstrels from off one of the gunboats in port. At present very little can be gleaned in connection with the affair, but there is some talk that the funds may be devoted to the cause of the lepers, which Dr. Andrew Beattie has so much at heart. It is certainly a worthy object and should receive unstinted support.

THE LIEN-CHAU AFFAIR.

There are no indications whatever that the boycott of American goods in any way abating. As I stated a few days ago the Hon. Mr. Cheshire is expected to arrive here soon and will be engaged at the American Consulate-General with the Hon. Mr. J. G. Lay in looking into this matter. His return to Canton has nothing whatever to do with the Lien-chau affair as erroneously reported in one of your contemporaries. This matter has been closed long ago so far as the recent investigation is concerned and not one of the American Commissioners, who went up to Lien-chau, is now in Canton; but they will no doubt learn with surprise that "a meeting is to be held by representatives of both Governments to arrive at a final decision." It is aptly that some of the Hongkong Journals cannot now let this matter rest in view of the fact that the more they have to say about it the more it becomes apparent that they know but very little of the real facts of the case.

TRADE MARKS.

Arrangements have now been made by which it is agreed that mutual protection shall be given by the United States Courts in China against infringement, by those under their jurisdiction, of trade marks duly registered in the United States and Germany. We have already notified in our columns that similar arrangements have been entered into by the United States in regard to other foreign countries.

[*From a Correspondent.*]

Canton, 20th December, 1905.

THE SALT QUESTION.

The price of salt is very high at the present moment and the people are suffering a great deal on this account as this necessary is the object of a monopoly. A merchant of the Sunning district has recently petitioned Viceroy Shum suggesting the adoption of machinery for the manufacture of salt; he has sent full particulars and specifications concerning his scheme and points out that by his methods there would be no limit to the output as the machinery could be kept going all the year round. It is now reported that the Viceroy has sent for the petitioner with whom His Excellency has discussed the merits of the scheme. The chief Salt Commissioner who was present at the interview was instructed to examine the affair from a fiscal point of view and to make a report to the Viceroy, whether it would affect the salt-revenues. It is believed that Viceroy Shum is in favour of the scheme and that the establishment of a salt-manufactory is not improbable.

FANTAN MONOPOLISTS AT WAR.

A serious riot has just taken place in the town of Hang-Shi of the Nam-Hoi district. The trouble arose through the question of fantan monopolies in that town. It appears that the present monopolist obtained the fan-tan farm by offering the Government a sum higher than that paid by the former holder of the privilege thus causing the latter's lease to be cancelled. This caused the old monopolist to seek revenge, and having gathered his partisans together ransacked several of the new farmer's shops. The new monopolists seeing that there was going to be trouble fortified all their shops. Their opponents immediately made the counter-move and seizing the houses opposite turned them into miniature forts. The local officials seeing that a battle was imminent and being unable to cope with the serious situation immediately reported the matter to the Nam-Hoi, asking for assistance.

The Nam-Hoi proceeded at once personally to the scene of the disturbance accompanied by Commodore Wong Pui-cheong and a strong force of braves who were transported to the town by three steam launches and fourteen guardboats. The party landed on the 17th inst. and arrested three of the ringleaders. When the prisoners were conveyed to the guardboats, the people were incited to give chase to the officials and a considerable mob started to attack them with arms, wounding several military officials including Capt. Lui-chan-Hoi. The commodore thereupon ordered his men to fire, killing twelve and wounding eight of the rioters who took to their heels after the volley. The officials, however, had to run away overland and sought refuge in a neighbouring village from whence they reached Canton. The Nam-Hoi has sent a detailed report of the occurrence to the Viceroy and is now awaiting his Excellency's orders.

ROBBERIES.

The approach of the China New Year is heralded by the usual recrudescence of daring robberies and general lawlessness. A daring gang of desperados has lately added the mysterious note to their doings by carrying away their victims' pigtails, adroitly cut off in addition to whatever valuables they found on the premises. By leaving cabalistic writings, etc., in the empty salvers and trunks the ignorant were led to believe that these misdeeds were committed by evil spirits. The mystery has been solved at last as one of these daring ruffians has been caught red-handed in the act of cutting a slice of flesh out of a child's arm. In spite of the narcotics that had been previously administered the child awoke and his screams caused the culprit to be arrested. The prisoner stated that he was a member of a brotherhood society, which counted thousands of members, but declined to give away the names of any of his associates. He said he is not afraid to die and will carry the secret to the grave.

ANNUAL REVIEW OF MANCHU TROOPS.

The annual review of the Manchu troops will be held at the East gate parade ground on the 27th and 29th of the 12th moon. Owing to the emptiness of the provincial coffers His Excellency the Tartar General has decided not to preside at the function as his presence would entail extra expenses which the Government can ill afford at the present moment. The review will be conducted under the supervision of the Shie-Lings of the different banner corps. Chinese and foreign drill will be gone through.

THE LIEN-CHAU TRAGEDY.

SIDELIGHTS ON THE OUTRAGE.

[*From Our Own Correspondent.*]

Canton, December 18th, 1905.

In last night's issue of the *Telegraph* it is stated in the telegram that fifty or more witnesses were examined before the Commission. It should be stated in order to be fair to all concerned that among this host of witnesses are numbered over twenty prisoners. These prisoners were together off and on day and night during the time that the testimony was being taken. Under these circumstances their testimony cannot be worth much. In fact, these men were called before the court "as a matter of form." Nearly all of them had been tried before a Chinese court before they appeared before the Commissioners. A number of them had received their sentences before appearing as "witnesses" before the Commissioners. When, therefore, these men testified that they were "not at home," "had no part in the affair," "were busy all day at their work" and many other such things their testimony was not of a high order. For Taotai Wen assured the American Commissioners that he was "very particular that no innocent man should suffer." And these men had been found guilty and sentenced.

A WITNESS THAT DID NOT COME.

There was one witness that was much wanted and did not appear. This was the ex-sub Prefect of Lien-chau. This officer was

in charge of the Lien-chau district when the attempt to force the po piu lottery on the people of Lien-chau was made. There is no doubt that he has some interesting facts to make known. But the Viceroy refused to produce him. The reason given was that this man had been twice caught in a lie and therefore was not to be trusted.

THE EWO COTTON CO.

DIRECTORS' FEES IN SHANGHAI.

TRENCHANT CRITICISMS.

The tenth ordinary meeting of shareholders in the Ewo Cotton Spinning and Weaving Co., Ld., was held at Shanghai on the 16th inst. Mr. W. J. Gresson presided. He said: Gentlemen,—The audited account of the Ewo Cotton Spinning and Weaving Co., Ld., for the year ending October 31st, 1905, and brief report accompanying it, have been in the hands of shareholders for the prescribed period of 14 days, and with your permission we will now adopt the usual form of procedure and accept them as read. At our last annual general meeting on December 23rd, 1904, it was announced to shareholders by my predecessor as chairman of the consulting committee, that prospects for the year under notice were good, and that statement has been fully justified by our being able to submit to you to-day a better result than has been achieved since the Mill started working. The exceptionally satisfactory result of our working is not in any measure caused by a departure from the policy we have previously adopted of endeavouring to buy cotton and sell yarn simultaneously and so secure a certainty of a profit—there has been no speculative feature in our operation; but what we have been able to avail of was the advantage of an unusually active demand for coarse cloths, exceeding the supply of imported goods and largely increasing the number of native hand looms and thereby consuming a greater weight of locally and native-made yarns. Cotton prices at the beginning of our financial year ruled high, but the crop being not only a big one, but a good one—and large growths almost invariably are good ones—resulted in a decline of quite ten per cent. from the opening when it was apparent in the summer months that an increased acreage had been put under cultivation. In April the margin of profit we were making on forward sales of yarn suggested the advisability of working the mill night and day, and although considerable difficulties in the matter of labour had to be overcome, our manager, Mr. Kerfoot, was equal to the occasion, and results warrant the departure which continues to-day with an ample supply of capable hands, enabling us to maintain two full shifts. Turning to the accounts, I feel sure that the shareholders will appreciate the conservative policy of your committee in recommending as a dividend only a small percentage of earnings, but yet giving a return of sixteen per cent. on share value. The transfer to a new account of Tls. 100,000 makes provision for rainy days, and the sum of Tls. 45,939.90 placed against renewals and repairs account is more prudent than ordinarily necessary, because in his annual report, our Mill Manager writes that "the machinery has been overhauled and is in good condition." This statement is supported by the fact that we have spent in renewals and repairs this year, Tls. 19,675, as against Tls. 10,245 during 1904, and another satisfactory feature in the account assisting the credit balance shown is that the debit entry for interest incurred is Tls. 20,000 less than last year. In view of the excited state of American cotton markets, and the unusually far forward engagements of manufacturers in Lancashire and American mills, the future of our industry is shrouded in uncertainties; but it may satisfy you to know that the production of the Ewo Mill is sold at good, night and day working, profits for four months of our new financial year. (Hear, hear) Before submitting to you the formal resolution that the report and accounts as published, and in your hands, be passed, I shall be very pleased to reply to any question that shareholders may desire to ask me.

Mr. Butler.—I have no doubt, Mr. Chairman, you can give a satisfactory answer, but I shall be glad if you will tell us why this amount of Tls. 45,939.90 was not deducted before from the gross amount instead of it being called net profits? Ought not that item of Tls. 45,939.9 to have been deducted first; you say you charge commission on it.

The Chairman—That item of Tls. 45,939.90 is part of the total profit on the year. The general managers are entitled to commission on the total profits. It seems to me that it does not matter what account yot put it to, to either the repairs and renewals account or to any other account, but it is part of the net profits of the year.

Mr. Butler—I have no doubt you are correct, sir. This report no doubt has been before the directors who passed it with their approval?

The Chairman—Certainly.

Mr. A. McLeod—I don't think Mr. Butler exactly understands. This Tls. 45,000 odd is to provide for future repairs.

Mr. Butler—Oh yes, I see that.

Mr. McLeod—The repairs as you will see have already been debited to the profit and loss account in the sum of Tls. 19,675.32, and this sum is to provide for future repairs; it might be put to the reserve fund or anything else.

The Chairman—I beg to propose that the report and accounts as presented be passed.

Mr. McLeod seconded, and the resolution was carried.

Mr. J. J. Dunne proposed the re-election of the retiring consulting committee.

Mr. W. C. Murray seconded.

SHANGHAI DIRECTORS' FEES.

Mr. Butler said—On this I should like to make one or two remarks. It has been my conviction for a good many years past that the directors of the companies in Shanghai are, and have been, largely overpaid. I will admit that there are companies in Shanghai in which a considerable amount of work devolves on the directors, but these companies are an exception, and in the majority of the companies the work of the directors is practically a sinecure. I think it might be interesting, and perhaps a little instructive, if we were to contrast what this Company has done for the individual shareholder and for the directors. I have been a shareholder in this Company from its installation. I believe, if my memory serves me correctly, that for the first year or half year, I don't remember which, a dividend was paid, but since then we shareholders have looked in vain for a return on our money. On the contrary we have seen our capital written down by 50 per cent. That is one side of the question. Let us see what it has done for the directors. During the same period they have each taken, not out of the profits but out of the capital of the Company, Tls. 10,000, and I say this is monstrous. The consciences of the directors must be as elastic as their pockets to enable them to do so. But that is not all. I find the same directors appearing in nearly every other company in Shanghai. I think I might safely say that perhaps with the exception of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank scrip, I don't possess a single share certificate that doesn't bear the name of Mr. Alexander McLeod and Mr. W. D. Little. There is one company, if I may use such an expression, where their names do not appear; I refer to the Municipal Council. But in the one case there is very little to do and ample remuneration, and in the other there is plenty of hard work and no pecuniary reward. The inference is, to my mind, obvious and that is these gentlement study their own interests rather than the interests of the company; in fact, I am forced to the conclusion that they are what we may call professional directors. I think in London they would be known by another name. I am not going to propose any revolutionary resolution. I am simply going to make a suggestion, and that is that the directors should voluntarily reduce the amount of their remuneration from Tls. 1,000 to Tls. 500 and I am convinced that it would work much better. I think I had better not wait and hear any discussion on my suggestion.

Mr. Butler then took up his hat and coat.

The Chairman: I don't quite know, Mr. Butler, why you have taken upon yourself to make these remarks. There is one point on which I should like to correct you without referring at all to the attacks you have made upon the directors of the various Shanghai companies. You say the directors of this company receive Tls. 1,000 per annum. The remuneration is Tls. 750.

Mr. Butler—I apologise for that.

The Chairman—I think you will admit that any man that works has to be paid.

Mr. Butler—Fully.

The Chairman—And so far as the Ewo Cotton Spinning and Weaving Co. is concerned, it has received from the members of the consulting committee good work, and I do not think that the public of Shanghai will consider the remuneration of Tls. 750 in any way excessive. As far as your attacks on the other directors of the various other Shanghai companies are concerned it doesn't devolve on me to defend them. I think that is all I have to say.

Mr. Butler—I am sorry to say I cannot agree with you. The directors of this Company have neither the technical nor practical knowledge necessary to run a cotton mill, and therefore there only remains the supervision of accounts, and I cannot see that that is worth Tls. 750 a year.

Mr. McLeod—There is a slight other mistake also in your remarks, Mr. Butler; you certainly made an inference which is not borne out. You referred to me as being a director of a great many companies; I admit it. There are a good many directorships which I would willingly give up, but I am bound to serve. Then you say I do nothing on the Municipal Council; well, I have served for many years—

Mr. Butler—Not recent years.

Mr. McLeod—I was vice-chairman of the Municipal Council only three years ago and I have served not one but for five or six years. It is absolutely indifferent to me what remarks you make about me.

Mr. Butler then left the room.

The resolution was then put and carried.—*N. C. D. News.*

ACCIDENT TO THE S.S. "KAIFONG."

The *Coblenews*, of the 19th inst., prints the following paragraph:—

The steamer, *Kaifong*, in a disabled condition, has just been towed into Manila bay from Iloilo. She met with an accident there and lost her propeller. She is to be towed to Hongkong for repairs. She left for Mariveles yesterday afternoon.

The *Kaifong* arrived in Hongkong to-day in tow of the *Taming*.

TO FORTIFY MANILA.

SECRETARY TAFT'S PROPOSALS.

A Washington telegram, of 12th inst., states that Secretary of War Taft is endeavouring to have Congress vote in favour of an appropriation of $1,500,000 to be used in fortifying Manila. The recommendation has been made by the Secretary of war as the outcome of a conference with Commander Frederick Coffin of the United States Navy, who recently went to Washington for the purpose from Philippine waters, where he had been continuously since the Spanish-American War. There is much adverse feeling concerning an expenditure of this kind in Washington, and the project is expected to meet with considerable opposition in Congress. The outcome of the agitation cannot yet be reasonably forecasted.—*Japan Advertiser.*

THE FLOATING MINE DANGER.

JAPANESE TRANSPORT'S NARROW ESCAPE.

The Chief Officer (Mr. Clark), the purser, and four seamen of the transport *Ninsen-maru* arrived at Moji the other day from Chefoo, and have given an account of the recent accident to the transport, on her way from Tairen with troops, by which she was disabled. From the account given by the chief mate and others the transport struck a mine and had a very narrow escape, her propeller being rendered unserviceable. It is stated the *Ninsen-maru* left Tairen on the 6th instant with 1,000 men belonging to the Ammunition Corps of the Imperial Guards and 144 horses for Ujina. At 2.20 o'clock on the morning of the 7th instant, a violent explosion was heard and a heavy shock was felt by the watch. So strong were the shocks that those at the stern were thrown out of their berths. It was thought the steamer must have struck a mine, and preparations were immediately made for placing the passengers in safety, but there were no indications, as time went on, that the steamer had sustained any very serious damage. The night was so dark that it was impossible to examine the bottom of the vessel thoroughly, but at daylight it was ascertained that the propeller and the shaft were broken, and the vessel consequently hopelessly disabled. It was at once decided to send one of the boats to Weihaiwei, and obtain help from the authorities. The boat was dispatched on its voyage of about 60 miles in charge of the Chief Officer, and when about half way, the steamer *Kumataka-maru*, on her way from Tientsin to Moji, was sighted. This vessel took aboard the boat's crew, and altered her course for Chefoo where the accident to the transport was communicated to the authorities. The *Kumataka* sailed at once for Moji, and on the voyage across passed the spot where the accident occurred, but nothing could be seen of the transport and it was thought she might have gone down. It was afterwards learned that the *Ninsen-maru* had been towed safely to Tairen by the *Toyo-maru*, when the passengers were transhipped to another steamer.—*Japan Chronicle.*

THE CLOSING OF THE GATES.

The closing of the gates in Peking, just because it goes on daily, and may apparently go on daily for centuries to come, is probably one of the "sights" least witnessed and talked of, save by those foreigners who may have chanced to run for it near closing time. The daily performance is marked with a due ceremony which is quaint and full of interest to the intelligent onlooker, as the closing by no means signifies the mere bringing together of the heavy wooden doors and the barring of the Emperor's highway against all comers. At the appointed hour a preliminary signal is given by a large gong or iron shield being struck with a big iron bar fifty times in such quick succession as almost to defy calculation, and this is followed by 100 double strokes commencing slowly and dreamily for the first half and gradually increasing to half hurricane rapidity; and this set of 100 blows is repeated in precisely the same fashion three times. When the third and last cycle of gong strokes is entered on, a number of old, and [illegible] season very much be-wadded and shuffled up old "Charlies" started a series of discordant yells to all and sundry to "hasten" or they will be shut out, and this combination of signals is followed by a jostling stream of people from both directions. Presently the rush slackens until only a solitary pedestrain, or possibly a man on a donkey, full till, a belated rickshaw, or a heavily laden cart straggles through. Then a movement is made with the gates, yelling bursts out afresh and another rush ensues, the gates being meanwhile half closed and occasionally opened a little way again, until the outgoers having meanwhile ceased, there is a final scrimmage to get into the city, and the process of closing, which has taken some half hour in all, is concluded. The huge iron plated doors having clanged to a monster iron pole is dragged up and placed across them on iron supports, being retained in position by a padlock of enormous proportions and of the well known Chinese type. There are in all the cities of Peking some 19 gates and the same ceremony is observed at each, but at such thoroughfares as the Hatamen there is naturally more traffic and the process is probably proportionately longer.—*P. & T. Times.*

HONGKONG JUNKS.

SUGGESTED FLEET FOR SINGAPORE.

The proposal to undertake an immense harbour scheme at Singapore, involving the expenditure of several million dollars has been very severely criticised, but it has been left for the *Straits Echo* to make a new suggestion on the subject. The suggestion is the result of some acquaintance with Hongkong harbour. The *Echo* remarks:—"We believe that the working of cargo in Singapore Roads would be a perfectly easy matter if a leaf were taken out of the book of Hongkong and decent junks employed as cargo boats, with powerful tugs to take them from shore to ship in the absence of sufficient wind to allow them to proceed under sail. The junks used for this work in Hongkong are splendid craft and many of them are admitted to be among some of the finest seaboats in the world. To see a number of Hongkong junks manœuvring is an object lesson in itself after having been used to the miserable tongkangs to be met with in the Straits. Hongkong Harbour, particularly during the North-East monsoon, is by no means as smooth as a mill pond, yet it is only upon the approach of a typhoon that the working of cargo is interrupted. There the steamers lie out in the stream in a strong tideway and it is no uncommon thing to see a vessel swinging to her buoy with junks on either side of her four deep. These craft are very easily handled and ride well, so that they do not grind one another to bits in a seaway as do our antiquated tongkangs in the Straits. Another advantage about the Hongkong cargo-boat is its cheapness. It is built of China pine and its cost is only about half that of a tongkang of the same size. If these craft were adopted by the Straits shipping companies they could easily be towed down from Hongkong, or the bigger classes could come down under their own sail with safety. But even if this were not the case, we do not see why the boats should not be built in Singapore. It would be quite easy to import a few Chinese shipwrights and the necessary material from China, and we believe that once the Hongkong junk had appeared in the Straits the days of the tongkang would be numbered. We shall probably be told by folk who have not been to Hongkong that we already have junks in the Straits. As a matter of fact we have not. The hybrid craft that pose as junks here are a cross between the Malayan prahu and the Chinese junk, with all the faults of the former and but few of the recommendations of the latter. If Government is so horribly anxious on the subject of the working of cargo in Singapore Roads, why does it not, now that it has grabbed Tanjong Pagar, import a fleet of Hongkong junks and cargo boats, with a dozen good towing launches, which the Northern Colony would turn out and send down while we are pondering over how to begin a harbour scheme and which would cost a mere song as compared with the tremendous sum we are asked to find for building moles?

THE PORTS OF CALL IN THE FAR EAST.

SOME POSSIBLE CHANGES IN STEAMSHIP CALLING PLACES.

The Victoria (British Columbia) *Daily Colonist*, of Nov. 26, made the following observations concerning the ports of call in Japan and other parts of the Far East:—

The steamer *Athenian* of the C. P. R. line is due from Hongkong and the usual ports of call in China and Japan. The usual ports of call are Amoy, Woosung (the port of Shanghai on the Yangtzse river), Nagasaki, Kobe, and Yokohama. With the changes which have been made and are in prospect in the Far East it is probable that ere long there will be other calls made in the Orient. It is by no means improbable that within a year, or less, many of the Oriental steamers will make a regular call at Fusan, in Corea, after leaving Nagasaki, whence steamers at present proceed to Shanghai, or rather Woosung, which is the usual anchorage for steamers of any size trading to the big port of North China. Fusan is the terminus of the recently completed Trans-Corean railway which will shortly be connected at Liaoyang with the Chinese Eastern Railway and the Trans-Siberian system to Europe. These changes, to say nothing of the internal trade of Corea which has a large outlet at Fusan on the southern coast, will make Fusan a most important port and the steamship owners will not be long in discovering this fact. The Japanese companies have started a fast ferry service from the port to Shimonoseki in connection with the Sanyo Railway which connects southern Japan with Tokio. There is also another port which will soon be made a port of call for the Oriental liners, that is Osaka. To a great extent Kobe is the port of Osaka, but the largest city of Asia is anxious to do its own shipping business, although at present, until the completion of the harbour improvements now nearing completion, comparatively small vessels alone call there. The government has spent $2,500,000 (gold) in harbour improvements and the city of Osaka has spent $7,500,000 (gold) to which it is estimated another $5,000,000 will be added to make the work complete. Tokio is also anxious for a harbour scheme which would involve the expenditure of many millions. As is known, Tokio lies on the river Sumida, where it joins Yokohama bay, and Yokohama is its port. The port is comparatively shallow and not too well protected. To improve it breakwaters were constructed, and the majority of ocean liners anchor off the bund within the breakwaters. Only small steamers of a few hundred tons go to Tokio. Dredging is constantly carried on at Yokohama. The work of making Tokio a port would occupy considerable time and be most expensive, but Tokio papers cherish the idea and it is mooted frequently in one or other of the Shimbuns of the capital. Nagasaki is perhaps the best protected harbour of the Japanese coast, but the pretty land-locked harbour is a small one. The largest dry dock in the Orient, that of the Iwasaki yards, is located there. Shimonoseki, the chimneys of Moji smoking like a miniature Pittsburg, but they are not good harbours. The currents run too swiftly and accidents are frequent. Kobe, to a great extent, is exposed to winds from the sea; in fact, it is more of a roadstead than a harbour.

COMMERCIAL.

Quotations for the week close as follows:—

Hongkong Banks	$865 sa. & s. £92.10
National Banks	$38 b.
Union Insurances	710
China Traders	84 s. ex div.
Canton Insurances	325 s.
Hongkong Fires	330 s.
China Fires	87 sa. & b.
Douglases	35 sa. & b.
H., C. & M. Steamboats	24½
Indo-Chinas	91
China Sugars	200 s.
Raubs	3⅞ b.
Docks	163 b.
Kowloon Wharfs	108
Farnhams	Tls. 130 b.
Hongkew Wharfs	210 b.
Hongkong Hotels	$149 s.
Ewo Cottons	Tls. 46 ex div.
Langkats	Tls. 207½

WEEKLY SHARE REPORT.

In their report of yesterday's date, Messrs. Benjamin, Kelly and Potts state:—The week under review has passed with very few changes and business generally continues dull. We beg to take the opportunity of wishing all our readers a Merry Christmas.

The "Shell" Transport and Trading Company, Limited, has declared a dividend of one shilling per share, account 1905, payable on the 1st proximo.

Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banks have further declined and are offering at $865 after sales at the figure. The London quotation is unchanged at £92 10s. od. Nationals remain in request at $38.

Marine Insurances.—Cantons are still in the market at $325. China Traders have weakened and can be obtained at $84 ex the dividend of $4½ paid on the 18th instant. Unions have changed hands at the reduced rate of $710 but close in demand at this price. North Chinas are wanted at Tls. 90.

Fire Insurances.—Hongkong Fires continue quiet at $330. China Fires are a shade firmer and have buyers at $87.

Shipping.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboats have fallen in value but can be placed at $24. Indo-Chinas have been disposed of at $91. Douglas Steamships continue firm with buyers at $35. China and Manilas have been in some demand and have been taken off the market at various rates between $20 and $22, closing steady at the latter figure. There is no change in Shell Transports, and Star Ferries are obtainable at quotations.

Refineries.—China Sugars have still further declined and close at $200. Luzons are slightly firmer and have inquiries at $25. In Shanghai, Perak Sugars have been sold at declining rates down to Tls. 62.

Mining.—Chinese Engineerings have been dealt in at Tls. 8.90. Raubs have risen to $4 and are wanted.

Docks, Wharves and Godowns.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks are without business but keep firm at $163. Farnhams were reported sold at Tls. 127 early in the week, but have since improved their position and after sales at Tls. 129 are now inquired for at Tls. 130. Kowloon Wharfs are quoted at $109. Hongkew Wharfs have hardened and sales at Tls. $207½ and Tls. 208 have taken place.

Lands, Hotels and Buildings.—Hongkong Lands are obtainable at $125. Shanghai Lands have been sold and there are further sellers at Tls. 120. Hongkong Hotels have found buyers at $150. New Central Stores can be placed at $7½, while Hotel des Colonies are to be had at Tls. 16. Astor House Hotels have been booked in Shanghai at $17 and $27½. Humphreys Estates have been negotiated and more shares are wanted at $12.

Cotton Mills.—Ewos have been parted with at Tls. 46 ex the dividend of Tls. 8 paid on the 18th instant. Internationals are asked for at Tls. 40, and Laou-Kung-Mows, after sales at Tls. 60, are offering at the rate. Hongkong Cottons have dropped to $13½.

Miscellaneous.—Green Island Cements are firm at $18. Electrics remain in request at $15 (old) and $14½ (new). A. S. Watsons are steady at $12½ and China Providents at $9½. William Powells have been placed at $10½ and are inquired for. Hall and Holtz have changed hands at $15½. Langkats have been fixed at Tls. 205 and Tls. 207½, at which latter rate further shares are wanted.

FREIGHT MARKET.

Messrs. Lamke and Rogge write in their circular of 16th December as follows:—

As was expected, considering the conditions of affairs described when last writing on the 1st instant, the freight market has continued extremely quiet. At the close practically nothing is doing. There are several handy-sized boats here and at a neighbouring port which are unable to secure any such employment as would warrant their being moved.

From the very few inquiries after tonnage that have been on the market during the past fortnight a very small chartering business only has resulted.

To load at Saigon for the Philippines, a small carrier has been fixed at 27 cents. Other boats have failed to draw offers, and tonnage, now at Saigon and offering to load part cargo for Hongkong, has met with no response, for lack of grain.

From Java, whilst the local refineries have some cargoes afloat in tonnage of their own or under previous contracts, there has been no fresh inquiry lately.

From Iloilo for this port a small boat has been chartered lump sum on basis of about 13 cents per picul.

Hongay has a fixture for Canton at $1.75 per ton.

Whether it be due to high f.o.b. prices and/or to short supply of Japanese coal, somehow there is next to no inquiry here for loading at Japanese coal ports, whilst extensive contracts for this port are reported in Indian Pulo Laut and Australian coal, tonnage for which is being found elsewhere. Moji to Hongkong there has been only one fixture reported, at $1.40.

Reports concerning northern freights are much more unfavourable. Latest telegraphic quotation Moji or Kuchinotsu to Shanghai is only $1.10 per ton. Freights for the Yangtze ports, South, are also much weaker. We hear of the fixture of an outside boat from Wuhu to Swatow at something like 75 cents, liners' terms; but from negotiations for Canton for non-liners there appears to have been no result at all locally, counter-proposals submitted in response to poor offers not having met with acceptance. There is a rumour of additional cargo

Government taxes on exports from the Yangtze ports.

On monthly terms, for prompt, no business has passed; it is believed that natives have secured a boat or two for next year's requirements, March commencing.

In sail freights nothing is doing.

Sail-tonnage loading or to load.—None.

Disengaged:—British ship *Celtic Chief*, 1,709 tons net reg. British bark *Rose*, 8[illegible] tons net reg. British 4-m. bark *Simla*, 2,0[illegible] tons net reg.

Departures:—None.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

SANITARY measures are adopted against Hongkong at Manila, Newchwang, Siam and Madras.

THE Viceroy at Nanking has ordered three gunboats from the Kawasaki shipyard at Kobe.

THE programme for clearing Port Arthur from mines has been completed. The authorities still advise precaution.

THE Corean ex-Minister at Paris has wired that it is hopeless to expect American intervention in favour of Corea.

MR. R. A. Hewett has been appointed a member of the Sanitary Board, in place of Mr. H. W. Slade, resigned.

DURING October 538 deaths were registered in the Colony. Of this number 18 were among the European and foreign community.

THE *Yahiko Maru* has been refloated at Port Arthur. The is one of the steamers employed to seal the mouth of Port Arthur.

THE German steamer *Gera*, agents Messrs. Melchers & Co., arrived from Vladivostok on day with 14 officers and 2,170 men homeward bound.

THE transports s.s. *Stuttgart* and s.s. *Gera* with Russian troops on board from Vladivostok to Odessa are due here on or about Tuesday the 21st inst.

ONE thousand policemen who have been trained in Tientsin are now on duty in Peking having taken up their work there from the 1st of this Moon.

THE scheme for the railway between Canton and Whampoa has been sanctioned by the Throne after being memorialized by the Board of Commercial Affairs.—*Shenpao.*

FROM a review of the estimates or the coming fiscal year in Japan it is made clear that the Finance Department is not in favour of abolishing the import duty on rice.

WITH the approval of the Army Council, H.E. the Governor has appointed Lieut. C. M. Coleman, 15th Battalion Lancashire Fusiliers, as extra aide-de-camp to His Excellency.

HIS Excellency the Governor, Sir Matthew Nathan, on Saturday opened the new ground acquired by the Kowloon Bowling Club, before a large attendance of ladies and gentlemen.

THE I.-C. S. *Suiwo*, which arrived at Shanghai on the 17th inst., reports that on the 15th inst. she passed the str. *Nanchang* ashore off Collinson Island, upper end. The str. *Poyang* was in attendance.

H.E. THE Governor has appointed, provisionally and until further notice, Mr. G. N. Orme to be police magistrate and assistant superintendent of police in the New Territories, with effect from the 22nd inst.

MAJOR G. F. H. Le Breton Simmons, Royal Engineers, will be in command of the troops proceeding on H. M. T. *Dunera* to England on 22nd instant. He will appoint his own adjutant and quarter-master for the voyage.

A TOKIO wire of the 16th inst. to the *N. C. D. News* says: The chief Japanese postal official in South Corea has been stabbed by a native employee who afterwards committed suicide. This is probably in connection with the local unrest.

THE total output of Kaiping coal from the three mines of the Chinese Engineering and Mining Co., Ld., located at Tongshan and Linsi, North China, for the week ending 2nd December, 1905, amounted to 22,150 tons, and the sales for the same period 19,500 tons.

THE Chinese newspapers of Shanghai, i.e., the *Shenpao*, the *Sinwenpao*, the *Eastern Times*, the *Universal Gazette* and the *South-China Daily Journal*, have organized an association to be known as the Association of Chinese Journalists. The objects of the organization are partly social and partly educational.

WITH reference to the collision between the Japanese transport *Hokuto Maru* and the German steamers *Rugia* and *Sidney*, a Moji telegram states that the transport sustained considerable damage at her stern. The *Sidney* escaped damage, but the *Rugia* had some of her plates knocked in on the port side.

IT is reported that the total cost of the late war will ultimately exceed Y1,900,000,000 which sum, according to the *Japan Chronicle*, represents almost half the amount of the whole State expenditure of Japan for thirty-six years, from the first year of Meiji to the year before last. The huge sum has been spent in two years of war.

THE following notification has been received from the Government of Madras:—"The Governor in Council [illegible] the regulations under the Venice Sanitary Convention be imposed at all uninfected ports of the Madras Presidency against arrivals from Hongkong, intimation having been received that there have been 4 cases of plague at that place since 17th October, 1905."

IN regard to the recent collision between the Japanese steamer *Inushima Maru III.* and the German steamer *Babelsberg*, the owners of the *Inushima Maru III.* have petitioned the Kobe Ku Saibansho for the preservation of evidence in view of an action for damages against the German, owners of the *Babelsberg*. The petition was granted, and evidence was taken on board the *Babelsberg*.

THE *Tokio Asahi* states that on the dissolution of the Combined Fleet, Admiral Togo will be appointed Chief of the Naval Board of Command, Vice-Admiral Yamanouchi, Chief of the Fleet Administration Bureau, and Vice-Admiral Kamimura, Chief of Bureau of Military Affairs. Viscount Ito, present Chief of the Naval Board of Command, will be appointed a member of the Highest Military Council.

THE woman and young girls, whose detention at the Central Police Station was the cause of the Shanghai Mixed Court fracas, were released at three o'clock on Thursday by order of the Consular body. The Chinese assert that the woman, Mrs. Lin, is the widow of a Chinese official who was on her way to Canton with the remains of her late husband, and that the girls were ordinary domestic slave-girls, and that consequently there was no question of kidnapping.

MR. Raphael Bellilios, the only son of the late Emanuel Raphael Bellilios, C.M.G., who is married to a daughter of Sir Israel Hart, is standing as Captain Cecil Norton's Unionist opponent in Newington at the next election. Mr. Bellilios's father-in-law, it is interesting to note, is an Independent Liberal candidate for Leith.

[illegible] two men accused of detaining farmers [illegible] the object of obtaining ransom for them, were sentenced, after being found guilty at the criminal sessions, to terms of seven years' hard labour each. In the arson case both prisoners were found guilty, and the *fokt* was sentenced to five years' and the principal partner to seven years' hard labour.

U. S. CONSUL-General F. D. Cheshire arrived by the s.s. *Mongolia* this morning. Mr. Cheshire proceeds to Canton, where he will be engaged with his colleague, the Hon. Mr. J. G. Lay, in looking into the vexed question of American boycott. This official's visit has nothing to do with the Lien-chau affair as we have seen reported.

H. I. M. S. *Furst Bismarck* arrived at Hongkong from Tsingtau at 7.30 on Monday, flying the flag of the Rear-Admiral, and saluted the Colony with 19 guns. The shore battery responded with 19 guns. The *Furst Bismarck* thereafter saluted the Russian Rear-Admiral with 15 guns, to which the Russian flagship responded with a similar compliment.

IT is reported that a scheme is on foot to publish a newspaper called *Akebono*, at Kobe, in the interests of the blind, the publisher himself being a blind man named Sakon Joko. It is stated that the paper is to be printed with a new type invented by Mr. Sakon after many trials, the letters, being stamped in relief, so that they can easily be read by the touch.

TWO Japanese, one a native of Osaka named Suzuco and the other a native of Nagasaki named Miyamoto, who were arrested in North Korea about three months ago charged with being Russian spies, have been tried at the Nagasaki Chiho Saibansho. Suzuko was acquitted, but Miyamoto was found guilty and sentenced to seven years' imprisonment.

CONCERNING Shanghai Dock shares, Messrs. Erich Georg and Co. write in their share report this forenoon as follows:—"Farnhams, owing to better prospects up North, are improving, and after sales at Tls. 127 to the North there are local buyers now at Tls. 130, which is also the Shanghai quotation. We just hear that an interim dividend of Tls. 4 per share has been declared."

AMONG the recommendations made to Congress are two by Secretary of War Taft, one for increasing artillery ordnance and the other to increase the army and navy medical services and invest them with authority that they have not hitherto enjoyed. The latter recommendation of the Secretary has been inspired by Major L. L. Seamans, who made observations during the Russo-Japanese war and is the author of a book setting forth his conclusions in the matter.—*Japan Advertiser.*

ON Monday afternoon the U.S. lighthouse tender *Tablas*, Captain O'Brien, was successfully towed off the ledge on which she grounded. The *Tablas* went ashore December 2, on the lee side of the island of Apo and owing to prompt measures which were taken to tow her off she suffered no considerable damage. The tender *Bastlan* which left Manila on the 9th inst. for the scene of the grounding and the tug *Robert K.* were both used in the work of rescue, being specially fitted with the necessary gear.

THE news which was in the air yesterday, says the *N. C. D. News*, of 18th inst., that our Foreign Office has decided that the Taotai's demand for the removal of Mr. Twyman from the post of British assessor at the Mixed Court, is entirely inadmissible, has given general satisfaction. The studiously discourteous tone of the Taotai's dispatch to Sir Pelham Warren, as published in the native papers, would itself have been sufficient reason for the refusal of the demand, even if Mr. Twyman had not been simply acting under orders. The release of the prisoners in the irregular fashion in which it was done is the very utmost concession that could be made to the Chinese demands, and we trust that the whole incident is now closed.

THE King Edward Hotel, as an hotel, located itself in its new home on Thursday in the very handsome building overlooking the premises now partly vacated, on the other side of the road, and which new premises have been fully described in detail in these columns. In honour of the occasion the proprietors, Messrs. Dorabjee and Co., ably assisted by their genial managers, dispensed open-handed hospitality to a large influx of visitors, who, after being invited to "lift a cup" to the success of the new hotel, made a tour of inspection of the premises, after which the unanimous verdict, as to the *tout ensemble*, was "second to none in the East." If the attendance can be brought up to the same plane of perfection as the appointments then the King Edward Hotel should, and we hope it may, have a very prosperous future before it.

THE Variety Club of the Royal Engineers gave the first of two entertainments in the theatre at Wellington Barracks on Monday. There was a fairly large audience. The programme was excellent, and being composed principally of humorous turns kept the audience in the greatest of good humour. It is quite evident that there is a vast amount of histrionic talent well developed among the Engineers. The [illegible] it would be difficult to convey any idea of the individual characteristics of the players, but the best evidence of the audience's appreciation was found in the rounds of applause and the numerous encores. One of the best items on the programme was the duet "Excelsior," rendered by two of the senior non-commissioned officers. The second entertainment will be given this evening.

DURING this month burglars have entered on no less than four occasions the premises of the Consulate for Chili, in Kobe. On the first occasion they stole nearly all the clothes in the servants' quarters. Though the Chilian Consul, Mr. Vendrell, had informed the responsible police authority of what had happened, a thief returned on two occasions, but was discovered in time by the inhabitants of the premises and [illegible] to take to his heels without having been able to take anything. During the other night a burglar again effected an entrance to Mr. Vendrell's residence. All the [illegible] various stolen effects found in the garden. The scoundrel must have been disturbed in his work. According to the *Japan Chronicle* it appears that no less than seven burglaries have occurred at Consular residences in Kobe during the year, and it seems remarkable that the police, who have been [illegible] in the other cases, should [illegible] in this case these criminals.

The Hongkong Telegraph.

(ESTABLISHED 1881.)

NEW SERIES No 5084 光緒三十一年十一月廿七號 SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1905. 大拜禮 星期六 香港英字十二月廿三號

$30 PER ANNUM. SINGLE COPY, 10 CENTS.

Banks.

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

PAID-UP CAPITAL.....$10,000,000
RESERVE FUND.—
Sterling Reserve.....$10,000,000 } $18,500,000
Silver Reserve .....$ 8,500,000 }
RESERVE LIABILITY OF PROPRIETORS.$10,000,000

COURT OF DIRECTORS:
H. A. W. SLADE, Esq., Chairman.
A. HAUPT, Esq., Deputy Chairman.
Hon. C. W. Dickson. | F. Sallnger, Esq.
E. Goetz, Esq. | E. Shellim, Esq.
C. R. Lenzmann, Esq. | Hon. R. Shewan.
G. H. Medhurst, Esq. | N. A. Siebs, Esq.
A. J. Raymond, Esq.

CHIEF MANAGER:
Hongkong—J. R. M. SMITH.
MANAGER:
Shanghai—H. E. R. HUNTER.
LONDON BANKERS—LONDON AND COUNTY BANKING COMPANY, LIMITED.

HONGKONG—INTEREST ALLOWED:
On Current Account at the rate of 2 per Cent. per Annum on the daily balance.

ON FIXED DEPOSITS:
For 3 months, 2½ per Cent. per Annum.
For 6 months, 3½ per Cent. per Annum.
For 12 months, 4 per Cent. per Annum.

J. R. M. SMITH,
Chief Manager.
Hongkong, 16th November, 1905. [22

HONGKONG SAVINGS BANK.

THE Business of the above Bank is conducted by the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION. Rules may be obtained on application.

INTEREST on deposits is allowed at 3½ PER CENT. per annum.

Depositors may transfer at their option balances of $100 or more to the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANK to be placed on FIXED DEPOSIT at 4 PER CENT. per annum.

For the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION,
J. R. M. SMITH,
Chief Manager.
Hongkong, 1st May, 1902. [23

DEUTSCH ASIATISCHE BANK.

AUTHORIZED CAPITAL.....Sh. Taels 7,500,000

HEAD OFFICE—SHANGHAI.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS: BERLIN.

BRANCHES:
Berlin Calcutta Hankow Peking
Tientsin Tsinanfu Tsingtau Yokohama

FOUNDED BY THE FOLLOWING BANKS AND BANKERS:

Koenigliche Seehandlung (Preussische Staatsbank)
Direction der Disconto-Gesellschaft
Deutsche Bank
S. Bleichroeder
Berliner Handels-Gesellschaft
Bank fuer Handel und Industrie
Robert Warschauer & Co.
Mendelssohn & Co.
} Berlin.

M. A. von Rothschild & Soehne } Frankfurt
Jacob S. H. Stern } a/M.

Norddeutsche Bank in Hamburg, Hamburg.
Sal. Oppenheim jr. & Co., Koeln.
Bayerische Hypotheken und Wechselbank, Muenchen.

LONDON BANKERS:
Messrs. N. M. ROTHSCHILD & SONS.
THE UNION OF LONDON AND SMITH'S BANK, LIMITED.
DEUTSCHE BANK (BERLIN), LONDON AGENCY.
DIRECTION DER DISCONTO GESELLSCHAFT.

INTEREST allowed on Current Account.
DEPOSITS received on terms which may be learned on application. Every description of Banking and Exchange business transacted.

HUGO SUTER,
Sub-Manager.
Hongkong, 9th September, 1905. [25

YOKOHAMA SPECIE BANK, LIMITED.

THE

ESTABLISHED 1880.

CAPITAL SUBSCRIBED .....Yen 24,000,000
CAPITAL PAID-UP ..... „ 18,000,000
CAPITAL UNCALLED..... „ 6,000,000
RESERVE FUND ..... „ 9,940,000

Head Office:—YOKOHAMA.

Branches and Agencies.

TOKIO. HONOLULU.
NAGASAKI. SHANGHAI.
LYONS. NEWCHWANG.
SAN FRANCISCO. MUKDEN.
BOMBAY. PORT ARTHUR.
TIENTSIN. CHEFOO.
PEKING. DALNY.
KOBE. TIE-LING.
LONDON. OSAKA.
NEW YORK.

LONDON BANKERS:
THE LONDON JOINT STOCK BANK, LD.
PARRS' BANK, LD.
THE UNION OF LONDON AND SMITHS BANK, LD.

HONGKONG BRANCH:—INTEREST ALLOWED On Current Account at the rate of 2 per cent per Annum on the Daily Balance.
On fixed deposits for 12 months at 5 per cent.
„ 6 „ 4 „
„ 3 „ 3 „

TAKEO TAKAMICHI,
Manager.
Hongkong, 25th September, 1905. [20

THE CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA, AUSTRALIA AND CHINA.

INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER, 1853.
HEAD OFFICE:—LONDON.

CAPITAL PAID-UP.....£800,000
RESERVE LIABILITY OF SHAREHOLDERS £800,000
RESERVE FUND £875,000

INTEREST ALLOWED on CURRENT ACCOUNT at the Rate of 2 per cent. per annum on the Daily Balances.
On Fixed Deposits for 12 months, 4 per cent.
„ „ „ 6 „ ... 3½ „
„ „ „ 3 „ ... 2½ „

T. P. COCHRANE
Manager.
Hongkong, 18th May, 1905. [24

INTERNATIONAL BANKING CORPORATION.

FISCAL AGENTS OF THE UNITED STATES IN CHINA, THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS AND THE REPUBLIC OF PANAMA.

CAPITAL AND SURPLUS
AUTHORISED.....GOLD $10,000,000
CAPITAL PAID UP .....GOLD $ 3,250,000
RESERVE FUND .....GOLD $ 3,250,000

HEAD OFFICE:
NEW YORK.
LONDON OFFICE:
THREADNEEDLE HOUSE, E.C.
LONDON BANKERS:
NATIONAL PROVINCIAL BANK OF ENGLAND, LIMITED,
UNION OF LONDON AND SMITH'S BANK, LTD.
BRITISH LINEN COMPANY BANK.

BRANCHES AND AGENTS ALL OVER THE WORLD.

THE Corporation transacts every Description of Banking and Exchange Business, receives Money in Current Account and accepts Fixed Deposits at the following rates:—
For 12 months 4½ per cent. per annum.
6 „ 4 „ „ „ „
3 „ 3 „ „ „ „

H. PINCKNEY,
Manager.
No. 9, Queen's Road Central.
Hongkong, 19th September, 1905. [21

Intimations.

JAPAN COALS.

THE MITSUI BUSSAN KAISHA
(MITSUI & Co.)

HEAD OFFICE:—1, SURUGA-CHO, TOKYO.
LONDON BRANCH:—34, LIME STREET, E.C.
HONGKONG BRANCH:—PRINCE'S BUILDINGS, ICE HOUSE STREET.

OTHER OFFICES:
New York, San Francisco, Hamburg, Bombay, Singapore, Sourabaya, Manila, Amoy, Shanghai, Chefoo, Tientsin, Newchwang, Port Arthur, Seoul, Chemulpo, Yokohama, Yokosuka, Nagoya, Osaka, Kobe, Maidzuru, Kure, Shimonoseki, Moji, Wakamatsu, Karatsu, Nagasaki, Kuchinotsu, Sasebo, Miike, Hakodate, Taipeh, &c.

Telegraphic Address: "MITSUI" (A.B.C. and A 1 Codes).

CONTRACTORS OF COAL to the Imperial Japanese Navy and Arsenals and the State Railways; Principal Railway Companies and Industrial Works; Home and Foreign Mail and Freight Steamers.

SOLE PROPRIETORS of the Famous Miike, Tagawa, Yamano and Ida Coal Mines; and SOLE AGENTS for Fujinotana, Hokoku, Hondo, Ichimura, Kanada, Mameda, Mannoura, Onoura, Otsuji, Sasahara, Tsubakuro, Yoshinotani, Yoshio, Yunokibara and other Coals.

S. MINAMI, Manager. Hongkong.
88]

WHEN YOU SEND YOUR "BOY" FOR

Fresh Australian Butter

See that he gets the "Princess" brand, the best made in Australia.
The wrapper of every pat bears our name and address.

THE MUTUAL STORES,
GENERAL STOREKEEPERS.

HONGKONG AND CANTON.
Hongkong, 20th September, 1905. [948

D. NOMA, TATTOOER,
60, QUEEN'S ROAD, CENTRAL.

THE Public are informed that my Parlours are open from 9 A.M. all day. My 33 years' experience in TATTOOING is a guarantee of good work and prompt execution. My Colours are absolutely fast and perfectly harmless, and produce a charming effect not attained by any other, as their composition is only known to me. H. R. H. The Duke of York, and H. I. H. The Emperor of Russia, both honoured me with their patronage; besides many others of High Rank. Prices Moderate and satisfaction guaranteed as attested by 5,700 Recommendations which I have received from all sources.
Hongkong, 16th November, 1904. [49

Mails.

PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

FOR	STEAMERS	TO SAIL ON	REMARKS.
YOKOHAMA VIA SHANGHAI, MOJI and KOBE	JAPAN..... E. P. Martin, R.N.R.....	About 26th December	Freight and Passage.
SHANGHAI	OCEANA..... W. Hayward, R.N.R.....	About 30th December	Freight and Passage.
LONDON, &c.....	CHUSAN..... H. W. Kenrick, R.N.R.	Dec. 30th, Noon	*See Special Advertisement.*

For Further Particulars, apply to
E. A. HEWETT, Superintendent.
Hongkong, 19th December, 1905. [2

Intimations.

NOTICE.

For the Convenience of Customers
LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.'S STORE
will remain open until 6 o'clock p.m.
Every Evening until SATURDAY, the 23rd inst.
Pass Books should be sent in if possible not later than 4 P.M. on Saturday.
The Store will be closed for the Christmas Holidays on the 25th and 26th inst.

ATTENTION IS DRAWN TO A CONSIGNMENT
OF
CALIFORNIAN NAVEL ORANGES
AND
CANADIAN APPLES
Just received ex "Empress of China" in splendid condition.

Oranges - - - per doz. 75 cents
Apples - - - „ lb. 25 „

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.
Hongkong, 20th December, 1905 [34

TURKISH CIGARETTES.

JOHN PETRINO & CO.

GRAND FORMAT	Per Tin of	50	$1.75
GOLD TIPPED	„ „	50	1.60
STAR OF INDIA	„ „	100	2.75
PRINCESS	„ „	100	2.20
NON PLUS ULTRA	„ „	100	2.00
DAMAS	„ „	100	1.75

Telephone

SOLE AGENTS
No. 7 . . CALDBECK MACGREGOR & CO.,
15, Queen's Road Central.
Hongkong, 8th December, 1905. [37

THE ORIENTAL CONSTRUCTION COMPANY,
CONSULTING AND SUPERVISING ENGINEERS AND CONTRACTORS,
HONGKONG, SHANGHAI AND MANILA.

SPECIALISTS
IN
RAILWAYS, MINES, WATER SUPPLIES,
REINFORCED CONCRETE, CONCRETE PILES.

ALEXANDRA BUILDINGS,
HONGKONG.
Hongkong, 12th July, 1905. [208

FIRE INSURANCE ASSOCIATION OF HONGKONG.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS.

IT is hereby notified that FIRE INSURANCE OFFICES will be CLOSED for the Transaction of Public Business on CHRISTMAS DAY and BOXING DAY, the 25th and 26th instant, respectively.

By Order,
A. R. LOWE,
Secretary,
Hongkong, 22nd December, 1905. [1280

NOW IS THE TIME TO DO YOUR SHOPPING.

NOW ON SHOW!

A LARGE variety of Tom Smith's CRACKERS, Cadbury's CHOCOLATE, in Fancy Boxes, suitable for presentation.
A select assortment of English and French SWEETS, from the well-known makers of London and Paris.

ALSO
Raphael and Tuck's XMAS and NEW YEAR CARDS of the prettiest design.
10 % Discount.
H. ROTTONJEE,
No. 5, D'Aguilar Street, Hongkong,
and
37 and 38, Elgin Road, Kowloon.
Hongkong, 21st December, 1905. [58

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS.

IN accordance with the Provisions of Ordinance No. 6 of 1875 the EXCHANGE BANKS will be CLOSED for the Transaction of Public Business on MONDAY and TUESDAY, the 25th and 26th instant, respectively.
Hongkong, 19th December, 1905. [1265

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR PRESENTS.

NEW LARGE ASSORTMENT
of
HIGH CLASS GOLD JEWELLERY,
with and without
PRECIOUS STONES.

Gold Watches, Silver Ware, Clocks, Gramophones, Bronzes, Fancy Goods, &c.

Open during Christmas Week, from 8 A.M. to 6 P.M.
J. ULLMANN & Co.,
Opposite General Post Office.
Hongkong, 21st December, 1905. [1278

COLD STORAGE.

THE HONGKONG ICE COMPANY, LTD., have now 40,000 Cubic feet of COLD STORAGE available at EAST POINT. Stores will be Open at 10 A.M. and 4 P.M. daily, Sunday excepted, to receive and deliver perishable goods.
WM. PARLANE,
Manager.
Hongkong, 22nd June, 1905. [675

Intimations.

If it's power you want,
take
BOVRIL

57]

THE COSMOPOLITAN,
A MONTHLY ILLUSTRATED MAGAZINE.

OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

".....everyone is bound to appreciate the departure from the stereotyped canons which this magazine promises.....its pages are bright without being shocking.—Its articles crisp, original, and well written, its illustrations are artistic and enhance the value of the journal....."—*Hongkong Daily Press*, 27th October, 1905.

"The praise which we gave to the first number of the COSMOPOLITAN may honestly be repeated in reference to the second number.....There is something very attractive in the unity which pervades the magazine through its being a one man affair, and that one man being such an acute student of passing events and wielding such a vigorous pen."—*N.-C. Daily News*, 30th October, 1905.

".....The many articles are well and brightly written.....there should be little doubt of success....."—*Shanghai Times*, 20th September, 1905.

".....Though the language of the staff is not English, the English of THE COSMOPOLITAN, idiomatically and grammatically, is irreproachable."—*China Gazette*, 22nd September, 1905.

".....Among these are 'The Art of Eating,' a witty and observant discourse on modern table manners.....It is certainly a heterogenous collection of wit and wisdom, *but it is the ideal of a Far Eastern magazine*, for it will sober the over-spirited or brighten the gloomy, just as the spirit moves the reader .....Taken altogether THE COSMOPOLITAN is brightly written, up-to-date, and entirely interesting....."—*Hongkong Telegraph*, 29th September, 1905.

".....Le champ d'observation de notre nouveau confrère est si vaste que nous croyons que la "copie" ne lui manquera pas, et nous lui souhaitons tout le succes desirable."—*L'Echo de Chine*, 20th September, 1905.

".....quite a new feature in Far Eastern journalism.....the quality of the letterpress is well worth the handsome setting.....We have found a good deal of sound common sense in articles as well as no little fun and humour.....matters calculated to interest not only the foreigner in Shanghai and Chinese Treaty ports, but in Japan"—*Japan Chronicle*, 12th October, 1905.

".....It is a very promising publication. The pictures are excellent.....one wonders how it is to be produced month after month"—*Japan Daily Mail*, 13th October, 1905.

In a few months the magazine will be written for subscribers only, and you will not be able to buy single copies.

The Christmas number will contain about 150 pages with nearly 100 illustrations and will cost $2.00 to non-subscribers whereas subscribers will get it at the usual price of $1.00.

SUBSCRIPTION.—$6.00 for six months plus 50 cents postage. Subscribers joining now may still get back-numbers from September, but as we have only 81 copies left for September and 52 for October it will be necessary to apply at once to:—

THE COSMOPOLITAN,
35, SZECHUEN ROAD, SHANGHAI.

Please note my name as a subscriber to the COSMOPOLITAN for 6 months beginning from.....

Enclosed please find $6.50.

Name of Subscriber.....

Address.....

Hongkong, 12th December, 1905. [1233

"MINIMAX" HAND FIRE EXTINGUISHER.

MINIMAX SYNDICATE, LIMITED,
LONDON, NEW YORK, BERLIN, HAMBURG, PARIS, VIENNA, MILAN, COPENHAGEN, ANTWERP, &c.

F. BLACKHEAD & CO.,
LOCAL AGENTS.

The most effective of all Hand Fire Extinguishing Apparatus.
NO PUMPS. NO HOSE. AUTOMATIC.
Extinguishes Oil, Varnish, Kerosine Oil, Tar, Benzine.
Guaranteed to remain in working order for any length of time.
SIMPLEST HANDLING.
Drive in the Knob and the apparatus is in action immediately, sending Spray nearly 40 feet.

IMPORTANT POINTS FOR CONSIDERATION.

Is Self-acting.
Destroys all smoke.
Can be used by anyone, even lady or child.
Minimum of Price, Weight and Size.

"MINIMAX"

Always ready for immediate use.
Requires only one hand to hold.
Weight only 18 lbs. when full.
Maximum of simplicity and effect.

Hongkong, 10th May, 1905. [553

Hotel.

HONGKONG HOTEL.

Military Band during dinner on Saturday Nights.

H. HAYNES,
Manager.
Hongkong, 20th December, 1905. [30

Shipping—Steamers.

HONGKONG, CANTON, MACAO AND WEST RIVER STEAMERS.

JOINT SERVICE OF THE HONGKONG, CANTON AND MACAO STEAMBOAT CO., LTD., AND THE CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY, LTD.

HONGKONG-CANTON LINE.

S.S. "HONAM," .....2,363 tons .....Captain H. D. Jones.
„ "POWAN," .....2,338 „ ..... „ G. F. Morrison, R.N.R.
„ "FATSHAN," .....2,260 „ ..... „ R. D. Thomas.
„ "HANKOW," .....3,073 „ ..... „ C. V. Lloyd.
„ "KINSHAN," .....1,995 „ ..... „ J. J. Lossius.

Departures from HONGKONG to CANTON daily at 8.30 A.M. (Sunday excepted), 9 P.M. and 10.30 P.M. (Saturday excepted).

Departures from CANTON to HONGKONG daily at 8.30 A.M., 3 P.M. and 6 P.M. (Sunday excepted).

These Steamers, carrying His Majesty's Mails, are the largest and fastest on the River. Special attention is drawn to their Superior Saloon and Cabin accommodation.

SERVICE OF THE HONGKONG, CANTON AND MACAO STEAMBOAT CO., LTD.

HONGKONG-MACAO LINE.

S.S. "HEUNGSHAN," .....1,998 tons,.....Captain W. E. Clarke.

Departures from Hongkong to Macao on week days at 2 P.M. Departures on Sundays at Noon.

Departures from Macao to Hongkong daily at 8 A.M.

CANTON-MACAO LINE.

S.S. "LUNGSHAN," .....219 tons.....Captain T. Hamlin.

This steamer leaves Canton for Macao every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday at about 8 A.M.; and leaves Macao for Canton every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at about 7.30 A.M.

JOINT SERVICE OF THE H.K., C. AND MACAO STEAMBOAT CO., LTD. THE CHINA NAVIGA-TION COMPANY, LTD., AND THE INDO-CHINA STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY, LTD.

CANTON-WUCHOW LINE.

S.S. "SAINAM," .....588 tons .....Captain W. A. Valentine.
„ „ "NANNING," .....569 „ ..... „ C. Butchart.

One of the above steamers leaves Canton for Wuchow every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at about 8 A.M. calling at Yunki, Mahning, Kumchuk, Kau-Kong, Samshui, Howlik, Shiu-Hing, Luk-Po, Luk-To, Lo-Ting-Hau, Tak-Hing, Doshing and Fong-Chuen. Departures, from Wuchow for Canton calling at the above ports every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at about 8.30 A.M.

FARES:—Canton to Wuchow.....Single $15.00. Return $25.00.
Canton to Tak Hing .....Single $12.50. Return $21.00.
Canton to Samshui.....Single $7.50.

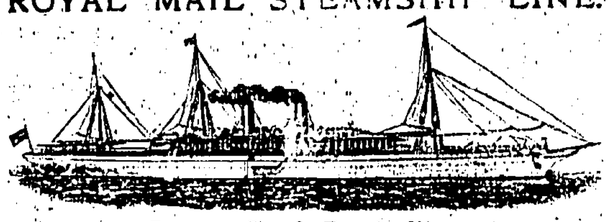
The above vessels have superior Saloon and Cabin accommodation and are lighted throughout by electricity. Meals charged extra.

Further particulars may be obtained at the Office of the—

HONGKONG, CANTON & MACAO STEAMBOAT CO., LD.,
Hotel Mansions, (First Floor) opposite the Hongkong Hotel,
Or of BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
Agents, CHINA NAVIGATION CO., LTD.

Hongkong, 8th September, 1905. 19

CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY COY.'S ROYAL MAIL STEAMSHIP LINE.



Luxury—Speed—Punctuality.

The only Line that Maintains a Regular Schedule Service of 12 Days across the Pacific is the "Empress Line." Saving 3 to 7 Days Ocean Trial.

12 Days YOKOHAMA TO VANCOUVER. 21 Days HONGKONG TO VANCOUVER.

PROPOSED SAILINGS. *(Subject to Alteration).*

R.M.S.	Tons	Leave Hongkong	Arrive Vancouver
"EMPRESS OF CHINA"	6,000	WEDNESDAY, Jan. 10	Jan. 31
"ATHENIAN"	3,440	WEDNESDAY, Jan. 24	Feb. 17
"EMPRESS OF INDIA"	6,000	WEDNESDAY, Feb. 7	Feb. 28
"TARTAR"	4,425	WEDNESDAY, Feb. 21	Mar. 17
"EMPRESS OF JAPAN"	6,000	WEDNESDAY, Mar. 7	Mar. 28

THE Quickest route to CANADA, UNITED STATES and EUROPE, calling at SHANGHAI, NAGASAKI, (through the INLAND SEA OF JAPAN), KOBE, YOKOHAMA, VICTORIA, connecting at VANCOUVER with the COMPANY'S PALATIAL OVERLAND TRAINS FROM THE PACIFIC TO THE ATLANTIC WITHOUT CHANGE.

Hongkong to London, 1st Class:.....*vid* St. Lawrence £60. *Vid* New York £62.
Hongkong to London, Intermediate on Steamers, and 1st Class Rail ..... „ £40. „ £42.

R.M.S. "TARTAR" and "ATHENIAN" carry "Intermediate" Passengers only at Intermediate rates, affording superior accommodation for that class.

Passengers Booked through to all principal points and AROUND THE WORLD.

SPECIAL RATES (First class only) granted to Missionaries, Members of the Naval, Military, Diplomatic and Civil Services, and to European Officials in the Service of China and Japan Governments.

For further information, Maps, Routes, Hand Books, Rates of Freight and Passage, apply to D. E. BROWN, General Agent,
Hongkong, 13th December, 1905 *Corner Pedder Street and Praya, opposite Blake Pier.* [10

HAMBURG-AMERIKA LINIE.

OSTASIATISCHER DIENST.

(Taking Cargo at through Rates to ANTWERP, AMSTERDAM, ROTTERDAM, COPENHAGEN, LISBON, OPORTO, LONDON, LIVERPOOL, GLASGOW, TRIESTE, GENOA, PORTS IN THE LEVANTE; BLACK SEA and BALTIC PORTS; NORTH and SOUTH AMERICAN PORTS).

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG.
SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.

STEAMERS.	DESTINATIONS.	SAILING DATES.	
NUBIA ..... Habel	HAVRE and HAMBURG. (Calling at S'PORE, PENANG & COLOMBO).	24th Dec.	Freight.
SITHONIA ..... H. Brehmer.....	HAVRE, BREMEN and HAMBURG. (Calling at S'PORE & PENANG).	27th Dec.	Freight.
AMBRIA ..... Wünnenberg	HAVRE and HAMBURG. (Calling at S'PORE, PENANG & COLOMBO).	16th Jan.	Freight.
BRISGAVIA..... Russ.....	HAVRE and HAMBURG. (Calling at S'PORE, PENANG & COLOMBO).	24th Jan.	Freight.
RHENANIA * ..... Förck	HAVRE and HAMBURG. (Calling at S'PORE, PENANG & COLOMBO).	7th Feb.	Freight and Passengers.

FOR ODESSA (DIRECT),
(Calling at SINGAPORE and COLOMBO).
ARCADIA, Captain Schmidt, about 1st January, Freight.
RHAETIA, Captain Behrens, about 3rd January, Freight.
ANDALUSIA, Captain Filler, about 8th January, Freight.

* Special attention of intending Passengers is drawn to the splendid accommodation of this steamer. Saloon and cabins amidships. Lighted throughout by Electricity. Duly qualified Doctors are carried.

For further Particulars, apply to
HAMBURG-AMERIKA LINIE,
HONGKONG OFFICE,
Hongkong, 22nd December, 1905. King's Buildings. [4

HOTEL CRAIGIEBURN,

PLUNKET'S GAP, the PEAK, near the TRAM TERMINUS, Tel. 56.
For Terms, &c., apply to the
MANAGER.
Hongkong, 2nd July, 1900. [28

Mails.

IMPERIAL GERMAN MAIL LINES.

NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD, BREMEN.

EUROPEAN LINE.

STEAM FOR
SINGAPORE, PENANG, COLOMBO, ADEN, SUEZ, PORT SAID, NAPLES, GENOA, ANTWERP, BREMEN/HAMBURG;
PORTS IN THE LEVANTE, BLACK SEA AND BALTIC PORTS;
ALSO
LONDON, NEW YORK, BOSTON, BALTIMORE, NEW ORLEANS, GALVESTON, AND SOUTH AMERICAN PORTS;
Steamers will call at GIBRALTAR and SOUTHAMPTON to land Passengers and Luggage.

N.B.—Cargo can be taken on through Bills of Lading for the Principal Places in Russia.

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG.
(SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.)

STEAMERS.	SAILING DATES.
PRINZ EITEL FRIEDRICH	WEDNESDAY, 3rd January, 1906.
GNEISENAU	WEDNESDAY, 17th January.
ROON	WEDNESDAY, 31st January.
PREUSSEN	WEDNESDAY, 14th February.
ZIETEN	WEDNESDAY, 28th February.
PRINZESS ALICE	WEDNESDAY, 14th March.
BAYERN	WEDNESDAY, 28th March.
PRINZ REGENT LUITPOLD	WEDNESDAY, 11th April.
PRINZ EITEL FRIEDRICH	WEDNESDAY, 25th April.
SACHSEN	WEDNESDAY, 9th May.
PRINZ HEINRICH	WEDNESDAY, 23rd May.
ROON	WEDNESDAY, 6th June.
PREUSSEN	WEDNESDAY, 20th June.
ZIETEN	WEDNESDAY, 4th July.

ON WEDNESDAY, the 3rd day of January, 1906, at Noon, the Steamship *PRINZ EITEL FRIEDRICH*, Capt. E. Malchow, with MAILS, PASSENGERS, SPECIE and CARGO, will leave this Port as above, Calling at NAPLES and GENOA.

Shipping Orders will be granted till NOON, on MONDAY, the 1st January, Cargo and Specie will be received on Board until 5 P.M., on TUESDAY, the 2nd January, and Parcels will be received at the Agency's Office until NOON, on TUESDAY, the 2nd January.

Contents of Packages are required. No Parcel Receipts will be signed for less than $1.00 and Parcels should not exceed Two Cubic Feet in Measurement.

The Steamer has splendid Accommodation and carries a Doctor and Stewardesses. Linen can be washed on board.

JAPAN-CHINA-AUSTRALIA LINE, VIA NEW GUINEA.

STEAM FOR SIMPSONHAFEN, FRIEDRICH-WILHELMSHAFEN, HERBERTSHOEHE, MATUPI, BRISBANE, SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE.

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG.
(Subject to alteration).

STEAMERS.	TONS.	SAILING DATES.
PRINZ WALDEMAR	3,227	TUESDAY, 9th January.
PRINZ SIGISMUND	3,302	TUESDAY, 6th February.
WILLEHAD	4,762	TUESDAY, 6th March.

ON TUESDAY, the 9th January, 1906, at Noon, the Steamship *PRINZ WALDEMAR*, Capt C. Woltemas, with Mails, Passengers and Cargo, will leave this port as above.

The steamer has splendid accommodation and carries a Doctor and a Stewardess.

Linen can be washed on board.

SAILINGS OUTWARDS.

EUROPEAN & AUSTRALIAN SERVICE.
DIRECT FOR YOKOHAMA AND KOBE.

FOR	STEAMER	ABOUT
YOKOHAMA & KOBE	*PRINZ SIGISMUND**	TUESDAY, 16th Jan.
SHANGHAI, TSINGTAU, NAGASAKI, KOBE & YOKOHAMA	*ROON*	WEDNESDAY, 3rd Jan.
SHANGHAI, NAGASAKI, KOBE & YOKOHAMA	*PREUSSEN*	WEDNESDAY, 17th Jan.

* Reaching Yokohama in less than 6 days.

NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD.
For further Particulars, apply to
MELCHERS & CO.,
Hongkong, 21st December, 1905. AGENTS.

WEST RIVER BRITISH STEAMSHIP CO.

HONGKONG-KONGMOON AND KAUKONG LINES.

S.S. "TAK HING."

SAILS every SUNDAY, TUESDAY, and THURSDAY, AT 7 P.M., for the above Ports. THE ROUND TRIP OCCUPIES ONLY 36 HOURS.

HONGKONG-WUCHOW LINE.

S.S. "LINTAN" and S.S. "SAN-UI."

SAILING TWICE A WEEK. THE ROUND TRIP OCCUPIES 5½ DAYS.

THE steamers sail from HONGKONG to SAMSHUI, SHUIHING, TAKHING and WUCHOW. They pass through the Canton delta, and steam up about 150 miles through the gorges, and beautiful scenery of the West River.

Fare for the Round Trip $30

These steamers have Excellent Saloon Accommodation, and are Lighted by Electricity.

For further information, apply to—
BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
AGENTS,
WEST RIVER BRITISH S.S. CO.,
HONGKONG.
Hongkong, 23rd December, 1905 [713

JAVA-CHINA-JAPAN LIJN.

REGULAR FOUR-WEEKLY SERVICE BETWEEN JAVA, CHINA, AND JAPAN.

Steamer.	From	Expected on or about	Will leave for	On or about
TJIMAHI.....	JAPAN	First half January	JAVA PORTS	First half January
TJILIWONG..	JAVA	First half January	JAPAN VIA SHANGHAI	Second half January
TJILATJAP...	JAVA	Second half January	JAPAN VIA SHANGHAI	First half February
TJIPANAS ...	JAPAN	Second half January	JAVA PORTS	First half February

The Steamers are all fitted throughout with Electric Light and have Accommodation for a limited number of Saloon Passengers, and will take Cargo to all Netherlands India Ports on through Bills of Lading.

For Particulars of Freight and Passage, apply to
THE HEAD AGENCY
OF THE
JAVA-CHINA-JAPAN LIJN.
Telephone No. 375,
YORK BUILDINGS, 1st Floor,
Hongkong, 23rd December, 1905. [14

Dentistry.

DR. M. H. CHAUN,
THE LATEST METHOD
of the
AMERICAN SYSTEM OF DENTISTRY,
37, DES VŒUX ROAD CENTRAL.
From the University of Pennsylvania, U.S.A.
Hongkong, 22nd July, 1905. [67

TSIN TING,
LATEST METHODS OF DENTISTRY.
STUDIO AT No. 14, D'ACUILAR STREET.
REASONABLE FEES.
Consultation Free.
Hongkong, 30th July, 1904. [66

Intimations.

THE YOKOHAMA DOCK CO., LTD.

No. 1 DOCK. Length inside, 514 ft. Width of entrance, top 95 ft.; bottom 75 ft. Water on blocks, 27.5 ft. Time to pump out, 4 hours.

No. 2 DOCK. Length inside, 375 ft. Width of entrance, top 60.5 ft.; bottom 45.8 ft. Water on blocks, 26.5 ft. Time to pump out, 2 hours.

THESE DOCKS are conveniently situated in Yokohama harbour and the attention of Captains and Engineers is respectfully called to the advantages offered for Docking and repairing Vessels and Machinery of every description.

The plant and tools are of recent patterns for dealing quickly and cheaply with work, and a large stock of material is always at hand, (plates and angles all being tested by Lloyds' surveyors).

Two powerful Twin Screw Towboats are available for taking Vessels in or out of Dock, and for taking Sailing Vessels in or out of the bay. The floating derrick is capable of lifting 35 tons.

Steam Launches of Steel or Wood, Lighters, Steel Buildings and Roofs, Brid.e Work, and all kinds of Machinery are made on the premises.

Tenders will be made up when required and the workmanship and material will be guaranteed.

The cost of Docking, and repair work, will be found to compare favourably with that of any port in the world.

Telephone: Nos. 376, 506, or 681
Telegrams, "Dock, Yokohama," Codes A. B. C. 4th and 5th Edt. Liebers, Scotts, A 1, and Watkins.
Yokohama, May 23rd, 1905. [76

PENINSULAR & ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION CO.

Homeward Passenger Season, 1906.

PROPOSED SAILINGS OF MAIL STEAMERS FOR

MARSEILLES & LONDON
TAKING PASSENGERS ALSO FOR
COLOMBO, INDIA, AUSTRALASIA, EGYPT, BRINDISI, &c.
THROUGH TICKETS ISSUED TO NEW YORK.

Steamers to Colombo.	Leave Hongkong.	Connecting Steamers from Colombo to Marseilles & London.		Due at Marseilles (Brindisi 2 days earlier),	Due at Plymouth (London 1 day later).
			Tons.	Noon, Saturday.	
ARCADIA	7,000	Feb. 10	BRITANNIA	7,000	Mar. 10 Mar. 16
DELHI	8,000	Feb. 24	MOLDAVIA	10,000	Mar. 24 Mar. 30
DONGOLA	8,000	Mar. 10	MONGOLIA	10,000	April 7 April 13
DELTA	8,000	Mar. 24	MOOLTAN	10,000	April 21 April 27
OCEANA	7,000	April 7	MARMORA	10,500	May 5 May 11
				Sunday.	Saturday.
ARCADIA	7,000	April 21	VICTORIA	7,000	May 20 May 26
DEVANHA	8,000	May 5	HIMALAYA	7,000	June 3 June 9
DONGOLA	8,000	May 19	INDIA	8,000	June 17 June 23

Passengers change steamers at Colombo, and those for Brindisi transfer also to the Express Mail Steamer at Port Said.

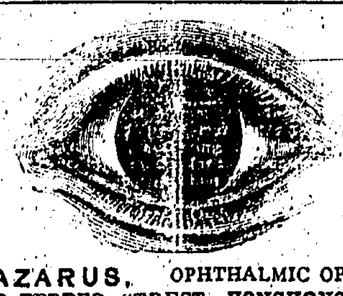
Accommodation in the connecting steamer from Colombo is arranged in Hongkong at time of booking. In addition to the above Mail Steamers the following

INTERMEDIATE (NON-TRANSHIPMENT) STEAMERS
WILL LEAVE FOR
LONDON
CARRYING SALOON PASSENGERS AT REDUCED RATES.

STEAMERS.	Tonnage.	Leave Hongkong About	Due at London About
† JAPAN	4,500	Feb. 14	Mar. 31
SUMATRA	5,000	Feb. 28	April 14
NUBIA	6,000	Mar. 14	April 28
† JAVA	4,500	Mar. 28	May 12
† FORMOSA	4,500	April 11	May 26

These Steamers call also at Singapore, Penang, Colombo, and at Malta or Marseilles.
† "JAPAN," "CEYLON" and "FORMOSA" carry only First Saloon Passengers.

For Passage, apply to—
E. A. HEWETT, Superintendent.
Hongkong, 13th December, 1905. [1175



EYES RIGHT!

N. LAZARUS, OPHTHALMIC OPTICIAN,
3, PEDDER STREET, HONGKONG,

WILL test your eyes free of charge, and if they are wrong will put them right.

Lenses Ground. All kinds of Repairs. Spectacles for all requirements.
Ask, or write, for Illustrated Booklet on "Defective Sight"—free.

LONDON, 21, John Street, Bedford Row, W.C.
CALCUTTA, 59, Bentinck Street.
SHANGHAI, 566, Nanking Road.
Hongkong, 27th November, 1905. [40

Hotels.

VICTORIA HOTEL, SHAMEEN, CANTON.
ON THE BRITISH CONCESSION.

MACAO HOTEL, MACAO, CHINA.
IN THE CENTRE OF THE PRAIA GRANDE.

BOTH HOTELS UNDER EXPERIENCED EUROPEAN MANAGEMENT.

EVERY COMFORT AND CONVENIENCE FOR RESIDENTS AND TOURISTS.

W. M. FARMER, Proprietor. 177

Telegraphic Address: 'CONNAUGHT' **CONNAUGHT HOTEL.** Telephone, No. 170.
HONGKONG.

A FIRST-CLASS FAMILY AND COMMERCIAL HOTEL, situated near the BANKS, PRINCIPAL OFFICES and in the MAIN STREET.

Large and Lofty Rooms, Elegantly Furnished.
Hydraulic Elevator,
Hot and Cold Water Baths and Shower Baths,
Flush Water Lavatories.
Excellent Cuisine and Wines.
Under European Management.
Launch Service for Guests.
Hongkong, 16th June, 1905. [658

Intimation.

POWELL'S

GENTLEMEN'S DEPARTMENT,

28, Queen's Road,

(OPPOSITE THE CLOCK TOWER.)

SMART WOOLLEN

DRESSING GOWNS

and

SMOKING JACKETS,

from $11 to $50 each.

SOLF-LEATHER, LINED LAMB'S WOOL,

HOUSE BOOTS,

Very comfortable and warm.

CARDIGAN WAISTCOATS,

Exclusive Designs.

SMART GOLF & MOTOR

CAPS,

Newes. Shapes.

TWEED

SHOOTING HATS.

BLACK & GREY

BOWLER HATS,

"The very Latest."

MEDIUM AND LIGHT-WEIGHT

FLANNEL SHIRTS.

PATENT

BOOTS & SHOES,

Three Smart Shapes.

HALF-HOSE, GOLF HOSE, RUGS, SUIT CASES, STICKS, OVERCOATS, WATERPROOFS, &c., &c., &c.

INSPECTION INVITED.

Wm. POWELL, Ld.,

28, Queen's Road, HONGKONG.

Hongkong, 23rd December, 1905. [13

Notice of Firm.

CHINA AND COAST PORTS STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

I HAVE, This Day, been appointed, as MANAGER.

GEO. KEEBLE.

3, MacDonnell Road.

Hongkong, 12th December, 1905. [1234

Auctions.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

PARTICULARS AND CONDITIONS of the letting by Public Auction Sale, to be held on WEDNESDAY, the 27th day of December, 1905, at 3 P.M., at the Offices of the Public Works Department, by Order of His Excellency the Governor, of One Lot of CROWN LAND at Deep Water Bay, in the Colony of Hongkong, for a term of 75 years, commencing from 22nd day of June, 1886.

PARTICULARS OF THE LOT.

No. of Sale.	Registry No.	Locality.	Boundary Measurements. NE.	SW.	SE.	NW.	Contents in Square feet.	Annual Rent.	Upset Price.
			ft.	ft.	ft.	ft.		$	$
1	Marine Lot No. 84	Adjoining Royal Building Lot, at Deep Water Bay.	200	200	196	196	39,600	90	1,960

Hongkong, 16th December, 1905. [1263

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by PUBLIC AUCTION, FOR ACCOUNT OF THE CONCERNED, on THURSDAY, the 28th December, 1905, at 2.30 P.M., at No. 5, "Fairview," Robinson Road, Kowloon, THE WHOLE OF THE HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, (Particulars from Catalogue).

TERMS:—As usual.

HUGHES & HOUGH, Auctioneers.

Hongkong, 22nd December, 1905. [1285

PUBLIC AUCTION.

BY ORDER OF THE MORTGAGEE, of VALUABLE LEASEHOLD PROPERTY, situate at Wing Lok Street, in the Colony of Hongkong, to be sold by Auction, IN ONE LOT, on FRIDAY, the 29th day of December, 1905, at 3 P.M., BY Mr. GEO. P. LAMMERT, Auctioneer, at his Sales Rooms, Duddell Street, Victoria.

The Premises are registered in the Land Office as MARINE LOT No. 35 and SECTION A of the RECLAMATION to MARINE LOT No. 35, with the Messuages and Buildings thereon, known as Nos. 154, 156 and 158, Wing Lok Street, Victoria, Hongkong.

For further particulars and conditions of sale, apply to—

EWENS, HARSTON & HARDING, Vendor's Solicitors, or to Mr. GEO. P. LAMMERT, Auctioneer.

Hongkong, 19th December, 1905. [1272

Hotels.

KING EDWARD HOTEL.

A HIGH CLASS PRIVATE HOTEL.

LADIES' AFTERNOON TEA-ROOMS.
PRIVATE BAR and BILLIARD-ROOMS.
HOT and COLD WATER throughout.
ELECTRICALLY LIGHTED. ELECTRIC FANS (if required).
ELECTRIC PASSENGER ELEVATOR to each floor.
TABLE D'HOTE at separate tables.

For Terms, &c., apply to—

MANAGER.

Hongkong, 4th December, 1905. [1195

OCCIDENTAL HOTEL.

EXCELLENT CUISINE.

MODERATE PRICES.

ELECTRIC FANS TO ORDER IN EVERY ROOM.

EUROPEAN MANAGEMENT.

ELGIN ROAD, KOWLOON.

Hongkong, 19th May, 1904. [27

ORIENTAL HOTEL, MACAO.

A FIRST CLASS HOTEL situated in the Centre of Praia Grande with splendid view of the Harbour.

LARGE AND LOFTY ROOMS, Elegantly Furnished.

EXCELLENT CUISINE.

WINES AND SPIRITS of the best quality.

BILLIARD TABLE, the best in the Far East.

EVERY COMFORT FOR RESIDENTS AND TOURISTS.

For Terms, &c, apply to—

THE MANAGER.

Macao, 19th October, 1905. [845

Insurance.

NORTH GERMAN FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF HAMBURG.

THE Undersigned AGENTS of the above Company are prepared to accept First Class FOREIGN and CHINESE RISKS at CURRENT RATES.

SIEMSSEN & Co.

Hongkong 28th May, 1895. [52

To Let.

TO LET.

A FOUR-ROOMED HOUSE, at No. 5, Rose Terrace, Robinson Road, Kowloon. Possession from the 15th December.

Apply to—

THE COMPRADORE, Messrs. Barretto & Co.

Hongkong, 11th December, 1905. [1227

TO LET.

NOS. 10 & 15, KNUTSFORD TERRACE, KOWLOON.

Apply to—

THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY CO., LD.

Hongkong, 1st December, 1905. [1177

TO LET.

GODOWN No. 3, NEW PRAYA, Kennedy Town.

Apply to—

THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY CO., LD.

Hongkong, 27th June, 1905. [692

TO LET.

A BUILDING at CAUSEWAY BAY, formerly in occupation of the Steam Laundry Co., Ltd.
No. 17, WONG-NEI-CHONG ROAD.
No. 5, CLIFTON GARDENS, Conduit Road.
No. 1, RIPON TERRACE.
FLATS in MORETON TERRACE, facing Polo Ground.
OFFICES in course of erection, CONNAUGHT ROAD (near BLAKE PIER).
GODOWNS: PRAYA EAST.

Apply to—

THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY CO., LD.

Hongkong, 2nd December, 1905. [69

For Sale.

FOR SALE.

REMINGTON TYPEWRITERS, new and in good condition.

BARGAIN PRICES.

Apply to—

H. RUTTONJEE, No. 5, D'Aguilar Street.

Hongkong, 16th December, 1905. [1260

GREEN ISLAND CEMENT COMPANY, LIMITED.

PORTLAND CEMENT.

In Casks of 375 lbs. net $4.75 per Cask ex Factory.

In Bags of 250 lbs. net $2.80 per Bag ex Factory.

SHEWAN, TOMES & Co., General Managers.

Hongkong, 30th September, 1905. [50

TUBORG BEER.

A FIRST Class PILSENER BEER guaranteed free from Salicylic Acid, and any other Chemicals.

PRICE $10.50 per case of 48 bottles (quarts) or 6 doz. pints.

Special Prices for Quantities.

Sole Agents:—

SIEMSSEN & CO.

Hongkong, 10th January, 1903. [57

THIS DWARF RAZOR has superseded the old fashioned clumsy Razor and by its use Shaving becomes a pleasure. It is manufactured in Sheffield, England, from a special amalgam of steel which makes imitation impossible, and in consequence it enjoys the largest sale of any Razor in the World. Thousands of Testimonials testify that the little "MAB" is the finest shaving implement ever produced.

Will be mailed to any address on receipt of the price ($2), post free.

To be obtained from THE MUTUAL STORES, WATKINS, LIMITED, and all first-class stores in the Colony.

Sole Agents for Far East, HOWARD & Co., 29, Des Vœux Road, Central, Hongkong. Agents wanted in every port.

For particulars and terms, apply to—

HOWARD & Co.

Hongkong, 24th November, 1904. [62

FOR SALE.

INCANDESCENT GASOLINE LAMPS OF ALL DESCRIPTIONS, *from the best makers.*

INCANDESCENT MANTLES, CHIMNEYS, GLOBES, SHADES, &c., for GASOLINE AND GAS LAMPS at the most moderate prices.

Lamps fixed up for Buyers free of charge.

Naphtha of the best kind kept in stock.

TAI KWONG, CO., 56, Lyndhurst Terrace.

Hongkong, 2nd May, 1904. [14

A SONG OF CHEER.

Sing me a song from the noon of the day,
Wake a refrain from its glory;
Bring me the flowerets that bloom on the way;
Make life a beautiful story;
Tell the sweet anthems that ring with a hope
Born not on earth and its sorrow;
Tell me of gates that are waiting to ope
For us on the "perfect to-morrow"!
Sing to me never of night or of gloom—
Life holds enough of such sadness—
Chill and decay let us hide in the tomb;
Death gives no echo of gladness.
Cast not a shadow; encourage no strife;
Time to its close is fast speeding;
Harvest the joy and the sunshine of life;
And follow where conscience is leading.

—Donahoe's.

COMMERCIAL.

WEEKLY SHARE REPORT.

In their report of yesterday's date, Messrs. Benjamin, Kelly and Potts state:—The week under review has passed with very few changes and business generally continues dull. We beg to take the opportunity of wishing all our readers a Merry Christmas.

The "Shell" Transport and Trading Company, Limited, has declared a dividend of one shilling per share, account 1905, payable on the 1st proximo.

Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banks have further declined and are offering at $865 after sales at the figure. The London quotation is unchanged at £92 10s. 0d. Nationals remain in request at $38.

Marine Insurances.—Cantons are still in the market at $325. China Traders have weakened and can be obtained at $84 ex the dividend of $4½ paid on the 18th instant. Unions have changed hands at the reduced rate of $710 but close in demand at this price. North Chinas are wanted at Tls. 90.

Fire Insurances.—Hongkong Fires continue quiet at $330. China Fires are a shade firmer and have buyers at $87.

Shipping.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboats have fallen in value but can be placed at $24. Indo-Chinas have been disposed of at $91. Douglas Steamships continue firm with buyers at $35. China and Manilas have been in some demand and have been taken off the market at various rates between $20 and $22, closing steady at the latter figure. There is no change in Shell Transports, and Star Ferries are obtainable at quotations.

Refineries.—China Sugars have still further declined and close at $200. Luzons are slightly firmer and have inquiries at $25. In Shanghai, Perak Sugars have been sold at declining rates down to Tls. 62.

Mining.—Chinese Engineerings have been dealt in at Tls. 8.90. Raubs have risen to $4 and are wanted.

Docks, Wharves and Godowns.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks are without business but keep firm at $163. Farnhams were reported sold at Tls. 127 early in the week, but have since improved their position and after sales at Tls. 129 are now inquired for at Tls. 130. Kowloon Wharfs are quoted at $109. Hongkew Wharfs have hardened and sales at Tls. $207½ and Tls. 208 have taken place.

Lands, Hotels and Buildings.—Hongkong Lands are obtainable at $125. Shanghai Lands have been sold and there are further sellers at Tls. 120. Hongkong Hotels have found buyers at $150. New Central Stores can be placed at $7½, while Hotel des Colonies are to be had at Tls. 16. Astor House Hotels have been booked in Shanghai at $17 and $27½. Humphreys Estates have been negotiated and more shares are wanted at $12.

Cotton Mills.—Ewos have been parted with at Tls. 46 ex the dividend of Tls. 8 paid on the 18th instant. Internationals are asked for at Tls. 40, and Laou-Kung-Mows, after sales at Tls. 60, are offering at the rate. Hongkong Cottons have dropped to $13½.

Miscellaneous.—Green Island Cements are firm at $18. Electrics remain in request at $15 (old) and $14½ (new). A. S. Watsons are steady at $12½ and China Providents at 39½. William Powells have been placed at $10½ and are inquired for. Hall and Holtz have changed hands at $15½. Langkats have been fixed at Tls. 205 and Tls. 207½, at which latter rate further shares are wanted.

DON'T WAIT TOO LONG.

Too many people keep the flowers they have plucked for you until the day of your funeral. Their songs of praise are not heard until your procession is passing their door. The mantle of charity does not become public property until put in use by the preacher who conducts the "last sad rites." If a man has flowers for me I want them while I am on earth and can smell their fragrance. They will do no good sitting at the head of my coffin. The grass that is kept green about my last resting place will be of little avail to me on the other shore. Here is where I need the flowers and the smiles and the praise, not over there. If the fellow who is going to go around to the house after I am gone to see "if he can be of any help" will come around to-morrow I can tell him how he can be of a whole lot of help. There will be plenty of them. It is all fired short now. Carry your flowers to the living and sing your songs of praise at the dinner-table. Don't wait for the funeral.—Osborne, Ohio, Farmer.

NOTICE.

THE Public are hereby informed that no change has been made in the Rates of Subscription to the *Hongkong Telegraph*, and they are warned against paying more than TEN CENTS (10 cts.) per Single Copy.

THE MANAGER, *Hongkong Telegraph* Co., Ltd.

Hongkong, 30th September, 1905.

Intimations.

DONE BY TRYING.

Nobody can tell what he can do till he tries. When a thing ought to be done the modern spirit moves us to keep working away at it until it is done. In the face of this idea the "impossible" vanishes. Where there's a will, there's a way. "If we could but rob cod liver oil of its sickening taste and smell and then combine it with two or three other ingredients we should possess the best remedy in the world for certain diseases that are now practically incurable." So said a famous English physician twenty-five years ago. "But it will never be done," he added. "You can no more turn cod liver oil into a pleasant palatable medicine, than you can turn the Codfish itself into a Bird of Paradise." Yet he lived to admit that in WAMPOLE'S PREPARATION the "impossible" had been accomplished. It is palatable as honey and contains all the nutritive and curative properties of Pure Cod Liver Oil, extracted by us from fresh cod livers, combined with the Compound Syrup of Hypophosphites, Extracts of Malt and Wild Cherry. This remedy is freed from the bad peculiarities Dr. Frothingham so detested, and it is precisely the splendid medicine he wished for. Use it freely and confidently for Anemia, Hysteria, Wasting Complaints, Blood Impurities, Asthma, and Throat and Lung Troubles, Dr. W. H. B. Aikins, F. R. C. P., London,—M. D. C. M., Victoria University,—M. B., Toronto University,—Consulting Physician to Home for Incurables, Physician to Toronto General Hospital, says: "I am much pleased to state that the results from using Wampole's Preparation of Cod Liver Oil have been uniformly satisfactory; it appealed to me as being prepared according to correct scientific principles." It increases the appetite and influences the digestion of food; it is delicious to take, will not disappoint you and is effective from the first dose. "It represents the dawn of progress." At chemists everywhere.

7

OCCIDENTAL HOTEL.

— *MENU* —

ESPECIAL CHRISTMAS DINNER, 24th December, 1905.

HERRING SALAD.

SOUP.
Mock Turtle Soup.

FISH.
Boiled Garopa, Oyster Dressing.

ENTREES.
Lamb Cutlets and Green Peas.
Fillet of Veal and Butter Sauce.

COLD.
Pate de Foie Gras en Aspic, Water Cress.
Mixed Salad.

CURRY.
Prawn Curry.

JOINTS.
Roast Australian Beef, Yorkshire Pudding.
Roast Turkey.
Boiled York Ham.

SWEETS.
Plum Pudding, Brandy Sauce.
Vanila Ice Cream, Finger Cakes.
Christmas Cake.
Mince Pie. [1284

THE UNION INSURANCE SOCIETY OF CANTON, LIMITED.

NOTICE is hereby given that an EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING OF THE UNION INSURANCE SOCIETY OF CANTON, LIMITED, will be held at the Registered Office of the Society, No. 1, Queen's Buildings, Victoria, in the Colony of Hongkong, on THURSDAY, the 4th day of January, 1906, at 11.30 o'clock in the forenoon, when the subjoined Resolution which was passed at the Extraordinary General Meeting of the Company held on the 20th day of December, 1905, will be submitted for confirmation as a Special Resolution.

"That the Capital of the Society be increased "to $3,100,000 by the creation of 2,400 "additional ordinary shares of $250 each "(whereof $100 shall be credited as paid "up) ranking for dividend and in all other "respects pari passu with the existing ordinary shares of the Society; and that the "said additional shares, so far as shall be "necessary for the purpose, be issued to "those shareholders of the CHINA TRADERS "INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED who "have accepted or shall accept the Society's "offer made to them on the 25th August, "1905, such issue being in accordance with "the terms of a contract or memorandum "in writing made or to be made pursuant "to the said offer and to be filed with the "Registrar of Companies; and that the "balance, if any, of the said additional "shares be disposed of by the Board in "such manner as it shall think most beneficial to the Society."

Dated the 20th day of December, 1905.

By Order of the Board,

W. J. SAUNDERS, Secretary.

1277]

A. CHAZALON & CO.

6, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.

NOTED for their WINES, SPIRITS and PROVISIONS of which they have always a large assortment in stock.

The oldest established EUROPEAN BAKERS in the Colony.

Hongkong, 30th September, 1905. [978

HOME-GOING SOLDIERS.

BOOKS, MAGAZINES, etc., for the use of SOLDIERS and their FAMILIES returning home by the transport "DUNERA," will be gladly received by the Chaplain. Address: Room 3, Top Floor, Alexandra Buildings, or a Post Card will ensure their being sent for.

Hongkong, 8th December, 1905. [1221

Intimations.

THE POPULAR SCOTCH IS "BLACK & WHITE"

JAMES BUCHANAN & CO.
SCOTCH WHISKY DISTILLERS.
By Appointment to
H.M. THE KING
and
H.R.H. the PRINCE of WALES

Supplied at all the LEADING CLUBS and HOTELS, and to be obtained from the principal Stores. [845

XMAS CAKES AND PUDDINGS A SPECIALITY.

CUSTOMERS are requested to book their orders early, in order to prevent disappointment.

WEISMANN, LIMITED, 34, Queen's Road Central.

Hongkong, 18th November, 1905. [46

THE WINE GROWERS SUPPLY CO.

BARRETTO & Co., General Agents, Hongkong

LIQUEURS.

L. ROZET & CO., BORDEAUX.

Special Brands.

Apricot Brandy ...	$2.50	Per Bottle Quarts.
Blackberry Brandy	2.50	" "
Cherry Brandy ...	1.75	" "
Cherry Whisky ...	1.60	" "
Croix. Jaunne ...	2.75	" "
Imperial Orange Brandy	2.75	" "
Mandarine Brandy	2.50	" "
Peach Brandy ...	2.50	" "

BARRETTO & Co., *Agents*, Nos. 22 & 24, Bank Buildings, Queen's Road Central.

Hongkong, 17th July, 1905. [42

Intimations.

E

BLEND.

VERY OLD

LIQUEUR

SCOTCH

WHISKY.

Per Dozen - - $16.50

A. S. WATSON & CO.,

LIMITED.

WINE & SPIRIT

MERCHANTS,

ALEXANDRA BUILDINGS.

Hongkong, 28th October, 1905. [32

TELL YOUR

FRIENDS

That we will, from the 14th to the 23rd inst. inclusive, refund to our customers, whose purchases are made on any day to be subsequently fixed by drawing between the dates above mentioned,

50 per Cent.

of the amount of the purchase, either Cash or Credit.

The drawing will take place at our Office on the 26th inst.

GREGOR & CO,

WINE MERCHANTS,

19, Queen's Road.

N.B.—Wholesale eaters' purchases are excluded from this offer.

Hongkong, 13th December, 1905. [33

NOTICE.

All communications intended for publication in "The HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" should be addressed to The Editor, 1, Ice House Road, and should be accompanied by the Writer's Name and Address.

Ordinary business communications should be addressed to The Manager.

The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MS., nor to return any Contribution.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES (IN ADVANCE).

DAILY—$30 per annum.

WEEKLY—$18 per annum.

The rates per quarter and per mensem, proportional. The daily issue is delivered free when the address is accessible to messenger. On copies sent by post an additional $1.80 per quarter is charged for postage. The postage on the weekly issue to any part of the world is 30 cents per quarter.

Single Copies: Daily, ten cents; Weekly, twenty-five cents.

The Hongkong Telegraph

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1905.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

A LIST of meteorological signals is printed in the *Gazette*.

"A MERRY Xmas and a Happy New Year" to one and all.

THERE will be no issue of the *Hongkong Telegraph* on Monday evening, the 25th inst.

SANITARY measures are adopted against Hongkong at Manila, Newchwang, Siam and Madras.

WE understand that Sir Francis and Lady Piggott intend spending a few days at Canton.

MR. E. A. Hewett has been appointed a member of the Sanitary Board, in place of Mr. H. W. Slade, resigned.

THE new extension of the Manila and Dagupan railroad to Cabanatuan, Philippine Islands, has been opened for traffic.

THE *Vorodzu* states that General Mogi, the captor of Port Arthur, will return to Japan about the middle of February.

DURING October 538 deaths were registered in the Colony. Of this number 18 were among the European and foreign community.

A WASHINGTON telegram to the *Asahi*, states that disturbances continue at Harbin, and that the insurgents have killed many officers.

THE Sanitary Board meet on Wednesday of next week. There are a dozen applications to be considered, in addition to the ordinary routine business.

FROM a review of the estimates for the coming fiscal year in Japan it is made clear that the Finance Department is not in favour of abolishing the import duty on rice.

WITH the approval of the Army Council, H.E. the Governor has appointed Lieut. C. M. Coleman, 15th Battalion Lancashire Fusiliers, as extra aide-de-camp to His Excellency.

H.E. THE Governor has appointed, provisionally and until further notice, Mr. G. N. Orme to be police magistrate and assistant superintendent of police in the New Territories, with effect from the 22nd inst.

WE have received calendars for 1906 from Messrs. Siemssen & Co. and Omar, Cassum Moosa, and a date block from Mr. S. J. David. From Bangkok comes a unique little block advertising Mr. J. Antonio's photographic studio.

IN wishing us the compliments of the season Messrs. Gregor & Co. kindly forward a few bottles of some of their very best which we feel sure will be appreciated by the members of the staff who desire to thank Messrs. Gregor & Co. for their substantial Christmas greeting.

WITH reference to the collision between the Japanese transport *Hokuto Maru* and the German steamers *Rugia* and *Sidney*, a Moji telegram states that the transport sustained considerable damage at her stern. The *Sidney* escaped damage, but the *Rugia* had some of her plates knocked in on the port side.

IT is reported that the total cost of the late war will ultimately exceed Y1,900,000,000 which sum, according to the *Japan Chronicle*, represents almost half the amount of the whole State expenditure of Japan for thirty-six years, from the first year of Meiji to the year before last. The huge sum has been spent in two years of war.

IT is reported that a scheme is on foot to publish a newspaper called *Akebono*, at Kobe, in the interests of the blind, the publisher himself being a blind man named Sakon Joko. It is stated that the paper is to be printed with a new type invented by Mr. Sakon after many trials, the letters being stamped in relief, so that they can easily be read by the touch.

POST Office notices have been issued as follows:—"Money orders, payable at Macao, will be obtainable on and after the 1st January, 1906.—Direct Money Orders with Germany, and her Colonies in the Pacific and Oceana, viz., Caroline Islands, Marshall Islands, Marianna Islands, Apia (Samoa) and German New Guinea, will be obtainable on and after the 1st January, 1906."

AMONG the recommendations made to Congress are two by Secretary of War Taft, one for increasing artillery ordnance and the other to increase the army and navy medical services and invest them with authority that they have not hitherto enjoyed. The latter recommendation of the Secretary has been inspired by Major L. L. Seaman, who made observations during the Russo-Japanese war and is the author of a book setting forth his conclusions in the matter.—*Japan Advertiser.*

ONE thousand policemen who have been trained in Tientsin are now on duty in Peking having taken up their work there from the 1st of this Moon.

INSTRUCTIONS have been issued to the provinces of China to prospect for and develop sulphur springs, as sulphur is required for the manufacture of matches, but no foreign capital is to be introduced in connection with the industry.

THERE will be a meeting of the Garrison Recreation Committee on Friday, 29th inst. at 11 a.m. to receive entries and draw ties for the Soldier's Club Football Challenge Shield. All clubs desiring to enter should send their entries to the Secretary Garrison Recreation Committee on or before that day, and are invited to send representatives to witness the drawing.

CONCERNING Shanghai Dock shares, Messrs. Erich Georg and Co. write in their share report this forenoon as follows:—"Farnhams, owing to better prospects up North, are improving, and after sales at Tls. 127 to the North there are local buyers now at Tls. 130, which is also the Shanghai quotation. We just hear that an interim dividend of Tls. 4 per share has been declared."

IN regard to the recent collision between the Japanese steamer *Inushima Maru III.* and the German steamer *Babelsberg*, the owners of the *Inushima Maru III.* have petitioned the Kobe Ku" Saibansho for the preservation of evidence in view of an action for damages against the German, owners of the *Babelsberg*. The petition was granted, and evidence was taken on board the *Babelsberg*.

THE *Tokio Asahi* states that on the dissolution of the Combined Fleet, Admiral Togo will be appointed Chief of the Naval Board of Command, Vice-Admiral Yamanouchi, Chief of the Fleet Administration Bureau, and Vice-Admiral Kamimura, Chief of Bureau of Military Affairs. Viscount Ito, present Chief of the Naval Board of Command, will be appointed a member of the Highest Military Council.

GENERAL Chaffee is going to be retired February 1. This will be received as a surprise in army circles as it was thought he fully intended to remain in the army until April 14 when he would retire by age limit. General Chaffee is to be succeeded as Lieutenant General by Major General John C. Bates who will remain in office until April 14 when he in turn will be succeeded by General Corbin who will remain in until he is retired on September 15, 1906.—*Cablenews.*

THE other evening a young and pretty girl was murdered on the stage at a gambling house entertainment in Aynthia. The *Bangkok Times*, says that Amdeng Phin was a fine singer as well as fair to look upon; her fame was great in a considerable district, and one evening some three or four hundred people had gathered to hear her. She had just got on the stage when she was shot through the heart. Her assassin was captured; and from the explanation he gave it appears his motive was sheer, sordid professional jealousy. He also was a singer, but if there was a chance of hearing Meh Phin, nobody cared to listen to him.

ADVICES received from Honolulu state that strict outward quarantine has been declared by the local marine hospital officials on all vessels bound from Honolulu for American ports, whether mainland or colonial. With the damp weather there has been a recurrence of plague, and special precautions are now being taken. Every steamer has to lie six feet away from the wharf and nobody other than a passenger is permitted aboard her from shore. The steerage passengers are required to have their baggage and effects fumigated, and cabin luggage is subject to inspection. Every sailing vessel is required to be fumigated. Only rock ballast is permitted if a clean bill is desired.

DURING this month burglars have entered on no less than four occasions the premises of the Consulate for Chili, in Kobe. On the first occasion they stole nearly all the clothes in the ervants' quarters. Though the Chilian Consuls Mr. Vendrell, had informed the responsible police authority of what had happened, a thief returned on two occasions, but was discovered in time by the inhabitants of the premises, and obliged to take to his heels without having been able to take anything. During the other night a burglar again affected an entrance to Mr. Vendrell's residence. As was shown by various stolen effects found in the garden, the scoundrel must have been disturbed in his work. According to the *Japan Chronicle*; it appears that no less than seven burglaries have occurred at Consular residence in Kobe during the year, and it seems remarkable that the police, who have been so alert and successful in other cases, should have been unable to trace these culprits.

THERE seems to be an extraordinary amount of ill-feeling at San Francisco and other ports on the Pacific Slope against Captain J. H. Rinder of ther "Minnesota," and, as far as can be gathered the sole cause of the jealousy existing—it seems to be nothing else—is the fact that Captain Rinder is an Englishman, a Royal Naval Reserve officer, and the commander of one of the finest American vessels afloat. A Seattle telegram states that ever since Captain Rinder was appointed rumours that he would be removed from the post were constantly reiterated, more recently the reason given being his alleged connection with the naturalisation frauds. A story from San Francisco stated that while the "Minnesota" was in Far Eastern waters Captain Rinder would desert the boat there rather than face prosecution on his return. When he returned in command those who had been fighting him rose to the occasion and declared he would promptly be removed to make way for a new master, already chosen, but this appears to have been nothing more than a threat.—*Japan Chronicle.*

DR. M. A. Legrand, one the most eminent surgeons in the French Navy, now retired, believes he has discovered the only sure preventive of sea-sickness. This is nothing more or less than a pliant band that will sufficiently compress the abdominal wall to prevent displacement of the viscera. Researches conducted by Dr. Legrand show that this method has been successful in sixty-seven per cent. of the cases. A strong point in favour of the system is that the patient need not modify his usual diet.

THE news which was in the air yesterday, says the *N. C. D. News*, of 18th inst., that our Foreign Office has decided that the Taotai's demand for the removal of Mr. Twyman from the post of British assessor at the Mixed Court, is entirely inadmissible, has given general satisfaction. The studiously discourteous tone of the Taotai's dispatch to Sir Pelham Warren, as published in the native papers, would itself have been sufficient reason for the refusal of the demand, even if Mr. Twyman had not been simply acting under orders. The release of the prisoners in the irregular fashion in which it was done is the very utmost concession that could be made to the Chinese demands, and we trust that the whole incident is now closed.

RECENTLY the *Graphic* had a scathing article on colonial appointments, in the course of which it remarked: "When a well-connected West End man has ruined himself by his extravagance there are generally three directions in which he seeks to obtain employment—a Colonial governorship, the City, or the Consular Service. If he has sufficient influence he is appointed to represent the Sovereign in some small Colony; if he is exceptionally popular he becomes associated with a flourishing stockbroker's office in the City; if he is altogether untrained he obtains a Consulship." Commenting upon this rabid outburst, the *Eastern Daily Mail* of Singapore says: "Once removed from the evil of the beach-comber type of official, is the fussy and finnicking personage who in the delusion that he is a hustler makes the life of his subordinates a permanent misery. We know of one individual in the Native States, who is fanatically interested in the minor details of his office, but seems calmly unconcerned with work of true importance. One of his latest scintillating efforts has been to evolve a new salary scheme for the *tukang ayers* (water carriers) of the Hospital for 1907. They are to receive thirty cents a day *with triennial increments of one cent!*

"QUITE a Christmas feeling, is there not?" was an assertive question on an interrogative assertion frequently heard along the length and breadth of Queen's Road, and the other thoroughfares where the shops are exhibiting their usual attractive displays of "toys" for old and young alike. The "toys" for the children of the older growth take the form of dainty dress materials, ribbons, laces, hats, and fur and feather boas (now yclept "stoles"). While for the small fry are toys that are the wonder of the parents for they are such as were undreamt of in their philosoply when they were young. Dolls that can do anything short of eating their own dinners, armies of soldiers who at the turn of a wheel proceed to a mimic dining-room table battle, and as for animals—lions, elephants and tigers—in their realism of flowing mains, waving trunks, and restless feline eyes, respectively, have for days past been the cause of many an obstruction of the sidewalks outside the windows where they are displayed. To-day many thoroughfares have presented busy scenes, with the hurrying matrons and the maids, and the young children, all laden with the purchases they have made to make the season festive, and the shops importing the goods, judging from appearances, should have no cause to complain of want of custom. Verily a "feeling of Christmas was in the air!"

THE FLOATING MINE DANGER.

JAPANESE TRANSPORT'S NARROW ESCAPE.

The Chief Officer (Mr. Clark), the purser, and four seamen of the transport *Ninsen-maru* arrived at Moji the other day from Chefoo, and have given an account of the recent accident to the transport, on her way from Tairen with troops, by which she was disabled. From the account given by the chief mate and others the transport struck a mine and had a very narrow escape, her propeller being rendered unserviceable. It is stated the *Ninsen-maru* left Tairen on the 6th instant with 1,030 men belonging to the Ammunition Corps of the Imperial Guards and 144 horses for Ujina. At 2.20 o'clock on the morning of the 7th instant, a violent explosion was heard and a heavy shock was felt by the watch. So strong were the shocks that those at the stern were thrown out of their berths. It was thought the steamer must have struck a mine, and preparations were immediately made for placing the passengers in safety, but there were no indications, as time went on, that the steamer had sustained any very serious damage. The night was so dark that it was impossible to examine the bottom of the vessel thoroughly, but at daylight it was ascertained that the propeller and the shaft were broken, and the vessel consequently hopelessly disabled. It was at once decided to send one of the boats to Weihaiwei, and obtain help from the authorities. The boat was dispatched on its voyage of about 60 miles in charge of the Chief Officer, and when about half way, the steamer *Kumataka-maru*, on her way from Tientsin to Moji, was sighted. This vessel took aboard the boat's crew, and altered her course for Chefoo where the accident to the transport was communicated to the authorities. The *Kumataka* sailed at once for Moji, and on the voyage across passed the spot where the accident occurred, but nothing could be seen of the transport and it was thought she might have gone down. It was afterwards learned that the *Tinsen-maru* had been towed safely to Tairen by the *Toto-maru*, when the passengers were transhipped to another steamer. —*Japan Chronicle.*

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not necessarily endorse the opinions expressed by Correspondents in this column.]

WANCHAI WATER SUPPLY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH."

DEAR SIR,—I am again about to trespass on your courtesy. On Monday last I sent you a letter under the heading of "Correspondence" relating to the water supply in the Wanchai District and you kindly laid the matter before the Public in the columns of your valuable paper the following day. I regret to say that the grievance still exists. I have had about ten gallons of water from the tap in my house since Thursday night December 14th. Not more than that, and there are many more people in the neighbourhood in the same predicament as myself. I could give names if it would be any benefit, but I am afraid it would not; that it would simply be useless. There is a stand pipe at the top of St. Francis Street. I think it is 1" bore and at 6.45 this morning I timed my boy drawing off one bucket of water from it. 2½ minutes exactly was taken to obtain it, and it must be borne in mind that there are hundreds besides myself who have to draw their supply of fresh water from the same source. It means that barely sufficient for culinary purposes is obtainable and not a drop for cleansing and other necessary purposes. Again if by some unforseen misfortune fire was to break out during the night, or at any time for that matter, the consequences would be most disastrous with the present high winds prevailing. If the fire got any hold at all, it would mean not only loss of valuable property but probably serious loss of life. I am an old resident in the Colony and remember with what a flourish the Tytam waterworks scheme was carried out, also the grumbling of some at the enormous expense the Colony was put to by it, and it was said, "Oh, the Colony will now have such a supply of fresh water that we shall not want for evermore." To judge by the present time, Mr. Price, the then head of the P. W. D., did not spend enough money on the conservancy of water, and the grumblers, at that time, at the expense incurred were apparently all at sea in the matter. No sooner was the Tytam works completed than wells were closed and water carriers where thrown out of employment and had to adopt some other business. Everybody was smiling and congratulating each other on the new water supply. But what about it later and now? In the years gone by we at least got sufficient water for all purposes whatever the source may have been either from the wells or the mountain streams, and we were satisfied and happy with our lot. Now the want of water causes anxiety and trouble. Just think on returning home at night from a long, hard day, to be met at the door with the remark: "I have no water in the house, or only enough for cooking, and I want to have the floors washed and I have a lot of underclothing wants washing," or something to that effect. These things do not conduce to make home happy, but on the contrary cause discontent and a reviling of the powers that be. I am afraid that I have written a rather long screed and perhaps you will not care to publish it; but I feel deeply on the subject and am not writing selfishly but for the good of many who like myself are suffering from the scarcity of water and who hope to have the grievance mitigated if not wholly removed by making it public through your journal.—I am, etc.

ONE OF THE MANY.

Hongkong, 23rd December.

[Seemingly, a grievance—no matter how generally it may be felt in the district—in Wanchai is not good enough for the Government. Wanchai taxpayers have yet to rise to the level of the self-constituted aristocracy of Hongkong. Let there be but a single plaint from the Peak, and Heaven and earth will be moved and the Council bestirred to get the grievance—real or imaginary—aright in less time than it takes to be heard.—Ed., *H.K. T.*]

"MAN'S INHUMANITY, ETC."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH."

SIR,—It may be as presumptuous as it is unusual for a layman to assail the administration of laws in Hongkong, but in very few words I would merely ask whether the authorities consider six hours' stocks on a raw winter day less barbarous than the Chinese cangue, as employed, say, in the Settlement of Shanghai, and sometimes in places under purely native jurisdiction.

The Sanitary Department is enrolled to launch out into heroic methods to combat the plague in one of its alleged breeding grounds, viz., dirt. Do they then see no inconsistency in an administration which condemns, very commonly now-a-days, the native culprit to sit in the germ-laden dust, summer or winter, when the cangue is more appropriate and has obvious advantages?—I am, etc.,

EASTERNER.

Hongkong, 22nd December, 1905.

ROBINSON PIANO Co. *v.* H. PRICE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH."

DEAR SIR,—With reference to my letter of the 22nd inst., I am sure you would not have made the comments as you have done had you been in possession of the full facts of the case, or had you taken a little trouble to make an inquiry into the matter.

The letter (one of the documents) produced in Court and upon which you have founded your erroneous impression had been written by Mr. Price before he sold the business to me.

On reference to the writ of summons, the *Daily Press* of the 13th inst. and your other contemporaries of about the same date, you will find it stated that the suit has been brought against Mr. H. Price, described as lately carrying on business as a wine and spirit merchant, *and not against H. Price & Co.* as affirmed by me.—Yours faithfully,

AHMET RUMJAHN.

[There is no erroneous impression in the case at all. The document as handed into Court and as reproduced in the columns of the *Hongkong Telegraph*, in the judgment referred to, and which, by the way, appears verbatim in the columns of our contemporaries, is distinctly signed by H. Price & Co., as negotiators for the lease of the premises from the Robinson Piano Co. It may enlighten Mr. Rumjahn to be informed that the *Telegraph* reporter was the only representative of the Press in Court when the judgment was delivered. It is no part of our Court Reporter's duty to inquire into the ownership of Messrs. H. Price & Co.'s business, or for the matter of that any other business. His duty is confined to the task he is set to perform, the discharge whereof we do not recognise Mr. Rumjahn's competence to call to question.—Ed., *H.K.T.*]

TELEGRAM.

"HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" SERVICE.

THE SHANGHAI RIOT.

BASIS OF AGREEMENT.

VIRTUAL CHINESE VICTORY.

FOREIGNERS' DISSATISFACTION.

[*From Our Own Correspondent.*]

Shanghai, 23rd December, 2.20 p.m.

It is reported that it has been agreed that the Municipal Female Gaol shall be abandoned.

The Chinese authorities shall retain custody of prisoners (being subjects of China) in future.

The Chinese authorities recognise Mr. Twyman as the British assessor *pro tem.*

It will be left to the Governments of Great Britain and China to define the position of the assessor at the Mixed Court.

The terms of the agreement are regarded by the foreign community in Shanghai as tantamount to a Chinese victory. As such it is cause for much dissatisfaction amongst the foreigners.

The Waiwupu has denounced Taotai Yuen in his attitude towards the affair.

The Mixed Court has been opened to-day.

The city is patrolled by three thousand bluejackets from the various men-of-war in port.

ACCIDENT TO THE S.S. "KAIFONG."

The *Cablenews*, of the 19th inst., prints the following paragraph:—

The steamer, *Kaifong*, in a disabled condition, has just been towed into Manila bay from Iloilo. She met with an accident there and lost her propeller. She is to be towed to Hongkong for repairs. She left for Mariveles yesterday afternoon.

The *Kaifong* arrived in Hongkong to-day in tow of the *Taming*.

TO FORTIFY MANILA.

SECRETARY TAFT'S PROPOSALS.

A Washington telegram, of 12th inst., states that Secretary of War Taft is endeavouring to have Congress vote in favour of an appropriation of $1,500,000 to be used in fortifying Manila. The recommendation has been made by the Secretary of war as the outcome of a conference with Commander Frederick Coffin of the United States Navy, who recently went to Washington for the purpose from Philippine waters, where he had been continuously since the Spanish-American War. There is much adverse feeling concerning an expenditure of this kind in Washington, and the project is expected to meet with considerable opposition in Congress. The outcome of the agitation cannot yet be reasonably forecasted.—*Japan Advertiser.*

G. T. P. AND THE ORIENT.

Mr. Charles M. Hayes has again declared himself on the G. T. P. steamship proposition. In Ottawa the other evening he said that a line would have to be established.

"It may be confidently expected," said Mr. Hays, "that the Grand Trunk Pacific will be a progressive railroad in every sense of the term, and that steamship as well as cable connection will be made from the Pacific coast to Europe. I have great faith in the possibilities of trade development with China and Japan, and I believe that a traffic movement in grain and its products to the Pacific coast will grow after the Grand Trunk Pacific is completed and in operation until it is quite as heavy as the movement of these commodities to the Atlantic coast. The western coast has of recent years made wonderful development, because trade has grown between Canada and the United States as well as with Australia and Asiatic countries.

"With the open door in China and Japan we will see a demand for Canadian manufactures and products which will make the current of traffic across the Dominion as voluminous to the western ports as it is to those of the Atlantic."

SHIPPING AND MAILS.

MAILS DUE.

French (*Polynesien*) 25th inst.

American (*China*) 27th inst.

Australian (*Empire*) 28th inst., a.m.

Canadian (*Athenian*) 3rd prox.

Australian (*Taiyuan*) 5th prox.

The s.s. *Satsuma* from Japan and China arrived at New York on 21st inst.

The s.s. *Zafiro* left Manila on 22nd inst., at 5 p.m., and is due here on 25th inst., at daylight.

The s.s. *Monmouthshire* left Singapore on 21st inst. and is due here on 28th inst., at daylight.

The Barber Line s.s. *Saint Gregory* sailed from Singapore *via* Manila for Hongkong on 20th inst.

The C. P. R. Co.'s s.s. *Empress of Japan* left Yokohama p.m. on 22nd inst. for Victoria and Vancouver.

TELEGRAMS.

[*Reuter's.*]

The Coming Elections.

LONDON, 21st December.

Lord Curzon has refused to stand for the City.

The City Liberal Association has adopted Sir West Ridgeway as their second Liberal candidate.

British Subjects in Russia.

H.M.S. *Sapphire* has arrived at Kiel, *en route* to a Russian port, to protect British subjects.

The Strikes in Russia.

Twenty-two railways participate in the new strike in Russia.

The joint council has issued a manifesto to the workmen and troops calling on them to revolt, and establish a democratic republic.

THE RUSSIAN BOURSE.

Later.

The terrible uncertainty in Russia is reflected on the Bourse. Russian fours falling to 76¼.

A popular leader has arisen in the Baltic provinces named Maxime, a wonderful orator, who is blindly obeyed everywhere.

The situation in Moscow is serious and martial law has been proclaimed. The city is in darkness with 50,000 men inside.

St. Petersburg is in a similar position.

[*Private.*]

FARNHAM, BOYDS.

INTERIM DIVIDEND.

Messrs. Benjamin, Kelly and Potts writing under to-day's date kindly inform us that they have received from Shanghai the following telegram:—

"Messrs. S. C. Farnham, Boyd and Company, Limited, have declared an interim dividend of Tls. 4 per share payable on the 6th January, 1906. The transfer books will be closed on the 2nd proximo."

CLAIM FOR LAND SOLD.

In Original Jurisdiction this morning, His Honour Mr. A. G. Wise, Puisne Judge, presiding, Leung Hung sued Hing Chin Wah for $11,718·32, being the amount of purchase money for a piece of landed property in the New Territory, sold by plaintiff to defendant in January 1901.

Mr. M. W. Slade instructed by Mr. L. d'Almada e Castro, of Messrs. Brutton, Hett and Goldring's office, appeared for the plaintiff, the defendant not appearing either in person or by representation.

The plaintiff was called and proved the claim, and judgment was given for plaintiff with costs.

THE CLOSING OF THE GATES.

The closing of the gates in Peking, just because it goes on daily, and may apparently go on daily for centuries to come, is probably one of the "sights" least witnessed and talked of, save by those foreigners who may have chanced to run for it near closing-time. The daily performance is marked with a due ceremony which is quaint and full of interest to the intelligent onlooker, as the closing by no means signifies the mere bringing together of the heavy wooden doors and the barring of the Emperor's highway against all comers. At the appointed hour a preliminary signal is given by a large gong or iron shield being struck with a big iron bar fifty times in such quick succession as almost to defy calculation, and this is followed by 100 double strokes commencing slowly and dreamily for the first half and gradually increasing to half hurricane rapidity; and this set of 100 blows is repeated in precisely the same fashion three times. When the third and last cycle of gong strokes is entered on, a number of old, and at this season very much be-wadded and muffled up old "Charlies" started a series of discordant yells to all and sundry to "hasten" or they will be shut out, and this combination of signals is followed by a jostling stream of people from both directions. Presently the rush slackens until only a solitary pedestrain, or possibly a man on a donkey, full till, a belated rickshaw, or a heavily laden cart straggles through. Then a movement is made with the gates, yelling bursts out afresh and another rush ensues, the gates being meanwhile half closed and occasionally opened a little way again, until the outgoers having meanwhile ceased, there is a final scrimmage to get into the city, and the process of closing, which has taken some half hour in all, is concluded. The huge iron plated doors having clanged to a monster iron pole is dragged up and placed across them on iron supports, being retained in position by a padlock of enormous proportions and of the well known Chinese type. There are in all the cities of Peking some 19 gates and the same *ceremony is observed* at each, but at such thoroughfares as the Hatamen there is naturally more traffic and the process is probably proportionately longer.—*P. & T. Times.*

THE WEATHER.

The following report is from Mr. F. G. Figg, First Assistant of the Hongkong Observatory:—

On the 23rd at 11.45 a. The barometer has risen over Japan, and Luzon, and fallen slightly in N. China.

The anticyclone has spread Eastwards over Japan, the central area being apparently situated over the Yellow Sea this morning.

Gradients are somewhat easier, but very strong monsoon must still be expected in the Formosa Channel and the China Sea.

Forecast:—strong NE. to E. winds; fair.

ST. JOSEPH'S COLLEGE.

ANNUAL REPORT.

The following is the report of the School during the past year, read at the prize-giving day yesterday:—

In reviewing the scholastic year of 1903 I find there were 324 boys on the Register and of these 132 were new comers. Our average daily attendance was 245.89, the highest attendance during the year being 288. The vast difference may be attributed to various causes:—Many Chinese boys come from different parts of the Colony and spend some days in the school after which they disappear without even saying good-bye. Among other classes of boys there seems to be no end to birthday festivals. One day it is the grandfather, another the grandmother, father, mother, uncles, aunts, brothers, sisters, all pass in turn, and of course the boys are required to enhance the solemnity. I think that parents who understand the importance that men of business and education attach to punctuality should insist on the children's adherence to the requirements of the school or college in which they place them. Permission of absence when asked for shall never be refused if sufficient reason is given for such an absence. It is very unpleasant when parents, after keeping their children at home for a day or more, will simply give a scribble to the effect that the boys were absent with their consent, thus leading them on to a spirit of independence and insubordination which will inevitably characterize them in after years.

The Report of the Inspector of Schools was as follows:—

Discipline and Organization:—Good. Standard I. has been divided into two divisions in deference to H.E. the Governor's advice given at the last prize-giving, that particular attention should be paid to the beginners. I regret to say that nothing has been done to teach the Chinese their own language. Attention was drawn to this point in last year's report. One boy I questioned, a boy of about fifteen, did not know a single character. When a Chinese cannot read the simplest letter, notice or name over a shop, he cannot be called properly educated. For this reason I am unable to report that the organization is "thoroughly efficient."

In examinations time is wasted by copying out the questions and ruling unnecessary lines. The boys frequently forget to put their names and the school at the top of their papers.

Sanitation:—The ventilation of the rooms seems now very satisfactory. Additional doors have been made so that it is not necessary any more to pass through one room to go to another.

Apparatus:—The maps in some of the rooms need renewing, especially those used by Standard II. Much new apparatus has, however, been bought recently. Slates should not be used above Standard III.

English, Colloquial:—The great majority of the boys are boarders and seem to learn to speak English by the natural process. Nevertheless, their fluency should not blind the teachers to the fact that they constantly employ foreign idioms in their speech, and these constantly appear in their compositions even in the highest standards.

Reading:—Good.

Composition and Grammar:—A large proportion (17 boys out of 29) of Standard V. obtained less than 40 per cent of marks at examination. It would appear that promotion has been somewhat hurried. Standard VI. did better. Their composition was good on the whole, though the essays were lacking in matter. Half the standard got half marks or over, and two thirds over 40 per cent. There are only three boys in Standard VII. They did well in grammar but their compositions are not up to the mark.

Handwriting:—Deserves more attention. It is not good in the upper standards. In all English subjects it was noticeable that on the one hand the work was done very neatly and tidily, on the other hand the work of even the best boys of the upper standards was marred by absurd mistakes in grammar and spelling.

Geography:—In the lower standards the local geography and the outlines of Asia were well known. Standard V. had too long and too wide a syllabus and failed badly at examination in consequence. Standard VI. on the contrary did very well. The whole standard obtained over 40 per cent. of marks, and 75 per cent. of the boys got over half marks. Standard VII. did well.

History:—Is very well taught. Very intelligent answers were obtained in Standards VI. and VII. The papers taken as a whole show the boys have a real grasp of the subject. Standard V. again did not so well.

Mathematics:—One boy in Standard VII Senior obtained full marks in papers set in arithmetic, algebra, and geometry—a remarkable performance. His work shows that the teaching must be excellent.

Arithmetic:—Standard I. have been doing mental arithmetic daily with very good results. Standards II. to VI. were rather disappointing Common sense does not seem used enough, and very simple problems were found too difficult for solution. Standard V. were especially weak in the conversion of dollars into sterling and vice versa, in decimals, and their inability to use the unitary method in the solution of problems. In Standard VI. the work was neat and the methods were in most cases good. But there was a want of accuracy.

Algebra:—The subject is very well taught. More time might be given to the solution of problems.

Geometry:—Taken in Standard VII. Senior and Junior. In the Junior division the arguments were not written out as if the writers were altogether convinced of their truth.

Drawing:—A new subject. No great advance has been made with it so far. Excellent materials have been procured, and it may be hoped that St. Joseph's may before many years produce draughtsmen of the quality it once used to do.

Hygiene:—Not begun.

Grant:—I recommend a grant at the rate of 30/-.

In view of complying with the wishes of the Inspector of Schools, Chinese is taught in the College at present for one hour every school day. In addition to the above subjects we have established a shorthand class and a typewriting class, as also the teaching of book-keeping, mensuration, and the elements of vocal music. The results of the Oxford Local Examination were very good. We presented but one boy in the Senior and he succeeded very honourably. We presented three in the Junior and two succeeded. Eleven boys sat for the Preliminary and nine succeeded, one of them coming out with third class honours and distinction in geography. I am glad to say that a good number of parents take a great interest in the weekly report. There are, however, some parents who do not prize it at its just value, and seem to ignore its existence. Our monthly and quarterly examinations continue to be held faithfully and the results are sent to the parents that they may see what their sons are doing and how they are conducting themselves. The boys of the college continue to take great interest in the inter-school games and sports. Unfortunately their play-ground is so limited that their success must naturally be far from satisfying their aspirations. Before concluding we have to make mention of the great loss our college has sustained by the death of the Right Rev. Bishop Piazzoli, a most distinguished benefactor of this institution. We also have to lament the death of the Hon. E. R. Belilios, who was a signal benefactor of the college, and whose memory will always remain in connection with the school through the two scholarships he so benevolently founded for St. Joseph's College. I beg to tender my very sincere thanks to H. E. the Governor for so graciously consenting to present the prizes to the deserving boys of the school. I also sincerely thank His lordship the Bishop who, notwithstanding his many calls, has so highly honoured us by his presence here to-day. I have also to thank Major-General Villiers Hatton, Mr. A. G. Romano, Consul for Portugal, Mr. J. J. Leiria, Vice Consul for Portugal, Major Pedley, Mr. Ho Tung, Messrs. Brewer & Co., Mr. Jose Machado, Mr. C. J. Goncalves, Mr. V. H. Deacon, and Mr. Anthony Shing Kee, for so generously contributing to our Prize Fund. I avail myself of the present occasion to offer my hearty good wishes to one and all for a very Merry Christmas and a thrice Happy New Year (applause).

THE PORTS OF CALL IN THE FAR EAST.

SOME POSSIBLE CHANGES IN STEAMSHIP CALLING PLACES.

The Victoria (British Columbia) *Daily Colonist*, of Nov. 26, made the following observations concerning the ports of call in Japan and other parts of the Far East:—

The steamer *Athenian* of the C. P. R. line is due from Hongkong and the usual ports of call in China and Japan. The usual ports of call are Amoy, Woosung (the port of Shanghai on the Yangtsze river), Nagasaki, Kobe, and Yokohama. With the changes which have been made and are in prospect in the Far East it is probable that ere long there will be other calls made in the Orient. It is by no means improbable that within a year, or less, many of the Oriental steamers will make a regular call at Fusan, in Corea, after leaving Nagasaki, whence steamers at present proceed to Shanghai, or rather Woosung, which is the usual anchorage for steamers of any size trading to the big port of North China. Fusan is the terminus of the recently completed Trans-Corean railway which will shortly be connected at Liaoyang with the Chinese Eastern Railway and the Trans-Siberian system to Europe. These changes, to say nothing of the internal trade of Corea which has a large outlet at Fusan on the southern coast, will make Fusan a most important port and the steamship owners will not be long in discovering this fact. The Japanese companies have started a fast ferry service from the port to Shimonoseki in connection with the Sanyo Railway which connects southern Japan with Tokio. There is also another port which will soon be made a port of call for the Oriental liners, that is Osaka. To a great extent Kobe is the port of Osaka, but the largest city of Asia is anxious to do its own shipping business, although at present, until the completion of the harbour improvements now nearing completion, comparatively small vessels alone call there. The government has spent $2,500,000 (gold) in harbour improvements and the city of Osaka has spent $7,500,000 (gold) to which it is estimated another $5,000,000 will be added to make the work complete. Tokio is also anxious for a harbour scheme which would involve the expenditure of many millions. As is known, Tokio lies on the river Sumida, where it joins Yokohama bay, and Yokohama is its port. The port is comparatively shallow and not too well protected. To improve it breakwaters were constructed, and the majority of ocean liners anchor off the bund within the breakwaters. Only small steamers of a few hundred tons go to Tokio. Dredging is constantly carried on at Yokohama. The work of making Tokio a port would occupy considerable time and be most expensive, but Tokio papers cherish the idea and it is mooted frequently in one or other of the Shimbuns of the capital. Nagasaki is perhaps the best protected harbour of the Japanese coast, but the pretty land-locked harbour is a small one. The largest dry dock in the Orient, that of the Iwasaki yards, is located there. Shimonoseki, the chimneys of Moji smoking like a miniature Pittsburg, but they are not good harbours. The currents run too swiftly and accidents are frequent. Kobe, to a great extent, is exposed to winds from the sea; in fact, it is more of a roadstead than a harbour.

DEPARTURES FOR ENGLAND.

TROOPS' HOMEGOING.

Among those who left for Southampton, on the transport *Dunera*, yesterday, were Capt. M. L. McDonnell, Lieut. G. B. Macdonald, Major L. H. Parry and 219 men of the Royal Garrison Artillery; Major L. J. Dopping-Hepenstal, Major F. H. Le Breton Simmons and Lieut. H. F. Dankes and 35 N.C.O.'s and men of the Royal Engineers; Lieut. G. de H. O. Stevenson, Lieut. W. F. Helume and 184 N.C.O.'s and men of the 2nd R. W. Kent Regt.; Capt. E. C. L. Fitzwilliams, Lt. and Q.-M. T. Pesare, warrant officer and four N.C.O.'s of the Army Service Corps; Capts. F. W. Lambelle, E. V. Aylen, and J. S. Harvey, and 18 N.C.O.'s and men of the Royal Army Medical Corps; Lieut. Col. F. W. Bunny, Lieut. (A.C.O.) J. Eubleton and foremen Blake and Hearle of the A. O. Department; three warrant officers, five N.C.O.'s and men of the A.O.C.; Colonel F. H. Haynes, of the A.P.D.; two N.C.O.'s of the A.P.C.; Lieut. F. C. Chandler, of the Army Schools; Lieut. W. H. Hodgson (119th Infantry); Major A. E. Hatch (129th Baluchis), and Lieut. C. B. Wahab (Chinese Regiment).

COMMERCIAL.

TO-DAY'S EXCHANGE.

Selling.

London—Bank T.T.	2 0 9/16
Do. demand	2 0⅛
Do. 4 months' sight	2 0 15/16
France—Bank T.T.	2.57
America—Bank T.T.	49⅞
Germany—Bank T.T.	2.08½
India T.T.	152½
Do. demand	153½
Shanghai—Bank T.T.	71⅛ nom.
Singapore T.T.	7½ % prem.
Japan—Bank T.T.	99½
Java—Bank T.T.	123

Buying.

4 months' sight L/C.	2/1 1/16
6 months' sight L/C.	2/1 3/16
30 days' sight San Francisco & New York	50⅛
4 months' sight do.	51⅛
30 days' sight Sydney and Melbourne	2/1 5/16
4 months' sight France	2.62
6 months' sight "	2.63⅛
4 months' sight Germany	2.14
Bar Silver	30 1/16
Bank of England rate	4 %
Sovereign	9.85

OPIUM QUOTATIONS.

To-day's quotations are as follows:—

	Per picul
Malwa New	@ 1,020/1,040
" Old	@ 1,060/1,100
" Older	@ 1,120/1,160
	Per chest
Patna New	@ 970
" Old	@ 960
Benares New	@ 937½
" Old	@ 920
Persian (Paper)	@ —

To-day's Advertisements.

THE HONGKONG ST. ANDREW'S SOCIETY.

A SCOTCH CONCERT, to celebrate the Anniversary of the Birth of ROBERT BURNS, will be held in St. George's Hall, City Hall, on SATURDAY, 27th January, 1906, at 9.15 P.M.

Seats may be reserved at the ROBINSON PIANO CO., LTD.

W. ARMSTRONG,
Hon. Secretary.

Hongkong, 23rd December, 1905. [1288

SANITARY BOARD OFFICE,
Hongkong.

TO THE OWNERS OF DOMESTIC BUILDINGS.

TAKE NOTICE that under No. 5 of the DOMESTIC CLEANLINESS and VENTILATION BYE-LAWS (as amended), every Domestic Building or part of such Building within the WESTERN DIVISION of the CITY OF VICTORIA occupied by members of more than one family must be Cleansed and Limewashed THROUGHOUT by the owner during the months of November and December.

N.B.—The word "Throughout" used in this notice means that the Houses should be Limewashed in respect of all the Walls of each Room and Staircase, all Cubicle Partitions, Stair Casings and Stair Linings, all Ceilings and the Undersides of Roofs both in Main Buildings, Offices and Servants' Quarters and inclusive of Verandahs.

The Back Yard should have its containing Walls Limewashed up to the level of the first floor.

Carved, Painted or Polished Woodwork in good condition, however, need not be Limewashed but must be Cleansed.

The Western Division of the City lies to the West of Tank Lane and Cleverley Street.

G. A. WOODCOCK,
Secretary.

Dated this 2nd day of December, 1905 [1287

TURKEYS. APPLES.

PRIME AUSTRALIAN TURKEYS, specially imported for XMAS and NEW YEAR,

Price: 70 cents per lb. plucked.

CHOICE CANADIAN APPLES,

JUST ARRIVED,

30 cts. per lb.

THE HONGKONG FROZEN FOOD SUPPLY.

Hongkong, 23rd December, 1905. [49

To-day's Advertisements.

THE TRADE MARKS ORDINANCE, 1898.

APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION OF TRADE MARK.

NOTICE is hereby given that YUET TUNG TOBACCO COMPANY, carrying on business at Victoria in the Colony of Hongkong and elsewhere as Tobacco Manufacturers have, on the 18th day of November, One thousand nine hundred and five, applied for the registration in Hongkong in the REGISTER of TRADE MARKS of the following Trade Mark:—

The illustration or representation of a Pagoda with mountains and trees in the back ground, above the illustration are written the Chinese characters 花塔 reading Fa Tap meaning Flowery Pagoda, and underneath the said illustration are written the Chinese characters 粵東烟草公司 being the name of the firm "Yuet Tung Tobacco Company" in the name of YUET TUNG TOBACCO COMPANY, who claim to be the proprietors thereof.

The Trade Mark is intended to be used by the applicants forthwith in respect of the following goods:—

MANUFACTURED AND UNMANUFACTURED TOBACCO, CIGARS AND CIGARETTES IN CLASS 45.

A Facsimile of the Tradé Mark can be seen at the office of the Colonial Secretary of Hongkong and also at the office of the undersigned.

Dated the 22nd day of December, 1905.

JOHNSON, STOKES & MASTER,
Solicitors for the applicants,
8, Des Vœux Road Central,
Hongkong.

1286]

PORTLAND AND ASIATIC STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

S.S. "NICOMEDIA,"
FROM PORTLAND (OR.), YOKOHAMA, KOBE AND MOJI.

THE above steamer having arrived, Consignees of Cargo are hereby requested to send in their Bills of Lading for Countersignature and to take immediate delivery of their goods from alongside.

Cargo impeding the discharge of the vessel will be landed and stored at Consignees' risk and expense.

No Fire Insurance will be effected by us in any case whatever.

S. SILVERSTONE,
Acting General Agent.

Hongkong, 23rd December, 1905. [12

Auctions.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

PARTICULARS AND CONDITIONS of the letting by Public Auction Sale, to be held on WEDNESDAY, the 27th day of December, 1905, at 3 P.M., at the Offices of the Public Works Department, by Order of His Excellency the Governor, of One Lot of CROWN LAND at Deep Water Bay, in the Colony of Hongkong, for a term of 75 years, commencing from 22nd day of June, 1886.

PARTICULARS OF THE LOT.

No. of Sale.	Registry No.	Locality.	Boundary Measurements. NE.	SW.	SE.	NW.	Contents in Square feet.	Annual Rent.	Upset Price.
1	Marine Lot No. 291.	Adjoining Rural Building Lot and Deep Water Bay.	ft. 100	ft. 200	ft. 196	ft. 196	19,600	$ 90	$ 1,960

Hongkong, 16th December, 1905. [1263

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by PUBLIC AUCTION, FOR ACCOUNT OF THE CONCERNED, on THURSDAY, the 28th December, 1905, at 2.30 P.M., at No. 5, "Fairview," Robinson Road, Kowloon, THE WHOLE OF THE HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, (Particulars from Catalogue).

TERMS:—As usual.

HUGHES & HOUGH,
Auctioneers.

Hongkong, 22nd December, 1905. [1285

PUBLIC AUCTION.

BY ORDER OF THE MORTGAGEE, of VALUABLE LEASEHOLD PROPERTY, situate at Wing Lok Street, in the Colony of Hongkong, to be sold by Auction, IN ONE LOT, on FRIDAY, the 29th day of December, 1905, at 3 P.M., BY Mr. GEO. P. LAMMERT, Auctioneer, at his Sales Rooms, Duddell Street, Victoria.

The Premises are registered in the Land Office as MARINE LOT No. 35 and SECTION A of the RECLAMATION to MARINE LOT No. 35, with the Messuages and Buildings thereon, known as Nos. 154, 156 and 158, Wing Lok Street, Victoria, Hongkong.

For further particulars and conditions of sale, apply to—

EWENS, HARSTON & HARDING,
Vendor's Solicitors,
or to
Mr. GEO. P. LAMMERT,
Auctioneer.

Hongkong, 19th December, 1905. [1283

Intimations.

Special Opportunity AT THE ROBINSON PIANO CO., LD.

ONE GETS A POOR RETURN FROM A PIANO IF IT IS A MERE ARTICLE OF FURNITURE OR AN INDIFFERENT MUSICAL INSTRUMENT.

ATTACH AN APOLLO PIANOLA AND ALL MUSIC IS AT YOUR COMMAND.

A CONCERT OR DANCE PROGRAMME AT A MOMENT'S NOTICE.

$290 UPWARDS.

HIRE OR HIRE-PURCHASE SYSTEM.

RACHALS' PIANOS

$550, formerly $670.

JUST UNPACKED IN NEW STORE,

BECHSTEIN, STEINWAY KRAUSS, HAAKE, RACHALS, WERNER.

A STOCK UNEQUALLED IN THE COLONY.

HIRE OR CREDIT.

Hongkong, 15th December, 1905 [521

Trade Mark

TELEPHONE No. 135.

XMAS AND NEW YEAR HAMPERS

(From $15 and upwards.)

HAMPERS,

CONTAINING 12 BOTTLES OF THE

Choicest Wines, Spirits,

&c., &c., &c.

We invite You to call at our office and make Your Own Selection from our extensive stock in all lines of Wines, Spirits, Liqueurs, &c.

H. PRICE & CO.,

WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS,

12, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL,

Hongkong, 20th December, 1905. [13

Shipping—Steamers.

OCEAN STEAMSHIP CO., LD.
AND
CHINA MUTUAL STEAM NAV. CO., LD.

JOINT SERVICES.

FORTNIGHTLY SAILINGS FOR LONDON AND CONTINENT.
MONTHLY SAILINGS FOR LIVERPOOL.

TAKING CARGO ON THROUGH BILLS OF LADING FOR ALL EUROPEAN, NORTH AND SOUTH AMERICAN, WEST AUSTRALIAN, JAVA AND SUMATRA PORTS.

EUROPEAN SERVICE.

OUTWARD.

From	Steamers	Due
GLASGOW and LIVERPOOL	"TELEMACHUS"	23rd December.
GLASGOW and LIVERPOOL	"PYRRHUS"	2nd January.
GLASGOW and LIVERPOOL	"SAINT BEDE"	2nd "
GLASGOW and LIVERPOOL	"PATROCLUS"	9th "
GLASGOW and LIVERPOOL	"ANTENOR"	16th "
GLASGOW and LIVERPOOL	"OOPACK"	23rd "
GLASGOW and LIVERPOOL	"NINGCHOW"	24th "
GLASGOW and LIVERPOOL	"ACHILLES"	30th "
GLASGOW and LIVERPOOL	"PELEUS"	6th February.
GLASGOW and LIVERPOOL	"ALCINOUS"	13th "

S.S. "Telemachus" left Singapore at daylight on the 17th inst., and is due here on the 23rd.

HOMEWARD.

For	Steamers	To Sail
*GENOA, MARSEILLES & L'POOL	"GLAUCUS"	25th December.
AMSTERDAM, LONDON & ANTWERP	"TYDEUS"	2nd January.
AMSTERDAM, LONDON & ANTWERP	"IDOMENEUS"	16th "
*GENOA, MARSEILLES & L'POOL	"PAK LING"	20th "
AMSTERDAM, LONDON & ANTWERP	"STENTOR"	30th "
AMSTERDAM, LONDON & ANTWERP	"SAINT BEDE"	13th February.
*GENOA, MARSEILLES & L'POOL	"PATROCLUS"	20th "
AMSTERDAM, LONDON & ANTWERP	"ANTENOR"	27th "

* Taking Cargo for Liverpool at London Rates.

TRANS-PACIFIC SERVICE.

OPERATING IN CONJUNCTION WITH
THE NORTHERN PACIFIC RAILWAY CO.
AND TAKING CARGO ON THROUGH BILLS OF LADING TO ALL OVERLAND COMMON POINTS IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND CANADA.

EASTWARD.

For	Steamers	To Sail.
VICTORIA, SEATTLE, TACOMA, and all PACIFIC COAST PORTS, *via* NAGASAKI, KOBE and YOKOHAMA	"TELEMACHUS"	24th December.
	"NINGCHOW"	24th January.

WESTWARD.

From	Steamers	Due
TACOMA, SEATTLE, VICTORIA and PACIFIC COAST	"TYDEUS"	26th December.
	"PINGSUEY"	25th January.

For Freight, apply to

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
AGENTS.

Hongkong, 23rd December, 1905. [1

CHINA NAVIGATION CO., LIMITED.

For	Steamers.	To Sail.
YOKOHAMA and KOBE	"CHINGTU"	25th December.
CHINKIANG	"PAKHOI"	26th "
NINGPO and SHANGHAI	"ICHANG" †	26th "
MANILA	"TAMING" *	27th "
MANILA, ZAMBOANGA, PORT DARWIN, THURSDAY ISLAND, COOKTOWN, CAIRNS, TOWNSVILLE, SYDNEY and MELBOURNE	"CHANGSHA" * ‡	27th "
CEBU and ILOILO	"SUNGKIANG" *	28th "
KOBE and NAGASAKI	"CHIHLI"	2nd January.

† Taking Cargo on through Bills of Lading to all Yangtsze and Northern China Ports.
* The Attention of Passengers is directed to the Superior Accommodation offered by these steamers, which are fitted throughout with Electric Light. Unrivalled table. A duly qualified Surgeon is carried.
‡ Taking Cargo and Passengers at through Rates for all New Zealand and other Australian Ports.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
AGENTS.

Hongkong, 23rd December 1905. [6

HONGKONG—MANILA.

Highest Class, newest, fastest and most luxurious Steamers between Hongkong and Manila.—Saloon amidships—Electric Light—Perfect Cuisine—Surgeon and Stewardess carried.—All the most up-to-date arrangements for comfort of Passengers.

CHINA AND MANILA STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

Steamship.	Tons.	Captain.	For	Sailing Dates.
ZAFIRO	2540	R. Rodger	MANILA	SATURDAY, 30th Dec., at Noon.
[illegible]	2540	R. Almond	"	SATURDAY, 6th Jan., at Noon.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

SHEWAN, TOMES & CO.,
GENERAL MANAGERS.

Hongkong, 22nd December, 1905. [5

HONGKONG-NEW YORK.

AMERICAN ASIATIC STEAMSHIP CO.

FOR NEW YORK via PORTS AND SUEZ CANAL.

(With Liberty to Call at the Malabar Coast).

Steamship	About

For Freight and further information, apply to.

SHEWAN, TOMES & CO.,
General Agents.

Hongkong, 25rd December, 1905. [11

FOR HOTEL COMFORT AND THE BEST BILLIARDS
GO TO THE
KOWLOON HOTEL.
KOWLOON.

Cable Address:—"Chef." J. W. OSBORNE, Proprietor and Manager. [20

Shipping—Steamers.

HONGKONG-MACAO LINE.

S.S. "WING CHAI."
Captain T. AUSTIN, R.N.R.

THIS Steamer departs from Hongkong on Week Days, at 8 A.M. and on Sundays at 8.30 A.M. Departs from Macao on Week Days at 2.30 P.M. and on Sundays at 5.30 P.M., if tide permits.

FARES:—Week Days, 1st Class, including Cabin and servant, Single $3; Return Ticket, $5; 2nd Class, $1; 3rd Class, 50 cents.

Every Sunday will be an Excursion, at the following rates:—1st and 2nd Class, Single Ticket, $1; Return, $2; 3rd Class, Single, 30 cents, Return, 50 cents; Steerage, 10 cents.

Breakfast, Tiffin and Dinner can be supplied either on Board, or at the Macao Hotel, for returning passengers only, at an extra charge of $1.

On Sundays, passengers desiring to have a Private Cabin which has accommodation for two or more passengers, will be charged $3 extra.

First Class Passengers, who do not care to return on the Excursion Sunday, will be allowed to do so the following day (Monday) on production of the Return Half Ticket. Should the Steamer not run on the Monday, owing to the Boiler cleaning, due notice will be given by the Captain, and the Half Ticket will be available for the following day.

The Steamer is lit throughout by Electricity.

The Steamer's wharf at Hongkong is at the Western end of Wing Lok Street.

MING ON & Co.,
2nd Floor, No. 16, Victoria Street.

Hongkong, 9th October, 1905. [14

STEAM TO CANTON.

THE New Twin Screw Steel Steamers

	Tons	Captain
"KWONG CHOW"	1,309	T. R. MEAD.
"KWONG TUNG"	1,238	H. W. WALKER.

Leave Hongkong for Canton at 9 every evening (Saturday excepted).

Leave Canton for Hongkong about 5.30 o'clock every evening (Sunday excepted).

These Fine New Steamers have unexcelled Accommodation for First Class Passengers and are lit throughout by Electricity. Electric Fans in First Class Cabins.

Passage Fare—Single Journey ...$4
Meals ...$1 each.

The Company's Wharf is a short distance West of the Harbour Master's Office.

SHIU ON S.S. CO., LD., and
YUEN ON S.S. CO., LD.,
No. 8, Queen's Road West.

Hongkong, 23rd August, 1905. [17

NORTHERN PACIFIC LINE.

BOSTON STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

BOSTON TOW-BOAT COMPANY.

Connecting at Tacoma with
NORTHERN PACIFIC RAILWAY COMPANY.

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG FOR VICTORIA, B.C., AND TACOMA, VIA MOJI, KOBE AND YOKOHAMA.

Steamer.	Tons.	Captain.	Sailing.
*Lyra**	4,417	G. V. Williams	29th Dec.
Shawmut	9,606	E. V. Roberts	24th Jan.
*Hyades**	3,753	Geo. Wright	—
Tremont	9,000	F. W. Garlick	—

* Cargo only.

CHEAP FARES, EXCELLENT ACCOMMODATION, ATTENDANCE AND CUISINE, ELECTRIC LIGHT, DOCTOR AND STEWARDESS.

The twin-screw s.s. *Shawmut* and *Tremont* are fitted with very superior accommodation for first and second class passengers. The large size of these vessels ensures steadiness at sea. Electric fan in each room.

Barber's shop and steam-laundry. Cargo carried in cold storage.

For further information, apply to

DODWELL & CO., LIMITED
General Agents.

Queen's Buildings.
Hongkong, 19th December, 1905. [8

REGULAR STEAMSHIP SERVICE TO NEW YORK,

VIA PORTS AND SUEZ CANAL,
(With Liberty to Call at Malabar Coast).

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG.

Steamship	About
"ATHOLL"	9th January.

For Freight and further Information, apply to

DODWELL & Co., LIMITED,
Agents.

Hongkong, 19th December, 1905

INDO-CHINA STEAM NAVIGATION CO., LD.

(PROJECTED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG.—SUBJECT TO ALTERATION).

For	Steamship	On
SHANGHAI	*KWONGSANG* †	WEDNESDAY, 27th Dec., 3 P.M.
S'GAPORE, PENANG & CALCUTTA	*NAMSANG**	SATURDAY, 30th Dec., 3 P.M.

† Taking Cargo on through Bills of Lading to Chefoo and Yangtsze Ports.

* These Steamers have superior accommodation for First-class Passengers, and are fitted throughout with Electric Light.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

JARDINE, MATHESON & CO.,
General Managers.

Hongkong, 23rd December, 1905. [460

PORTLAND & ASIATIC STEAMSHIP CO.

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG, VIA SHANGHAI, INLAND SEA OF JAPAN, MOJI, KOBE AND YOKOHAMA,
FOR
PORTLAND, OREGON,
OPERATING IN CONNECTION WITH
THE OREGON RAILROAD AND NAVIGATION COMPANY.

Steamship	Tons	Captain	To Sail at Daylight on
"NICOMEDIA"	4,370	Wagemann	December 27th.
"NUMANTIA"	4,370	Feldtmann	January 7th, 1906.
"ARABIA"	4,483	Metzenthin	January 31st, "
"ARAGONIA"	5,198	Ernst	—

Through Bills of Lading issued to Pacific Coast Points and all Eastern, Canadian and United States Points. For through rates of Freight and further information, communicate with or apply to

S. SILVERSTONE, Acting General Agent.

[12]

"BEN" LINE OF STEAMERS.

FOR MARSEILLES AND LONDON.

THE Steamship

"BENLOMOND,"

Captain Henderson, will be despatched as above, on MONDAY, the 25th instant.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co.,
Agents.

Hongkong, 20th December, 1905. [1190

EASTERN AND AUSTRALIAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE,
(Calling at Manila, Port Darwin and Queensland Ports, and taking through Cargo to Adelaide, New Zealand, Tasmania, &c.)

THE Steamship

"AUSTRALIAN,"

Captain W. G. McArthur, will be despatched for the above Ports, on THURSDAY, the 28th instant, at Noon, instead of as previously advertised.

This well-known Steamer is specially fitted for Passengers, and has a Refrigerating Chamber, which ensures the supply of Fresh Provisions, Ice, etc., throughout the voyage.

This Steamer is installed throughout with the Electric Light.

A Stewardess and a duly qualified Surgeon are carried.

N.B.—To assure the additional comfort of passengers the steamers of the Company have electric fans fitted in staterooms.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co.,
Agents.

Hongkong, 23rd December, 1905. [1189

FOR SINGAPORE, PENANG AND CALCUTTA.

THE Steamship

"CATHERINE APCAR,"

Captain A. Stewart, will be despatched for the above Ports, on THURSDAY, the 28th inst., at 3 P.M.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
DAVID SASSOON & Co., LIMITED,
Agents.

Hongkong, 21st December, 1905. [1270

THE AMERICAN & ORIENTAL LINE.

FOR NEW YORK AND BOSTON.
(With Liberty to Call at the Malabar Coast).

THE Steamship

"COULSDON,"

Captain Henry, will be despatched for the above Ports, on or about TUESDAY, the 2nd January, 1906.

For Freight, apply to
ARNHOLD, KARBERG & Co.,
Agents.

Hongkong, 8th December, 1905. [1217

FOR SAN FRANCISCO.

THE Steamship

"DAKOTAH,"

Captain Ross, will be despatched for the above Port, on or about TUESDAY, the 16th January, 1906.

For Freight and further particulars, apply to
SHEWAN, TOMES & Co.,
Agents.

Hongkong, 21st November, 1905. [1144

Shipping—Steamer.

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES,
PAQUEBOTS-POSTE FRANÇAIS.

FOR SHANGHAI, KOBE AND YOKOHAMA.

THE Company's Steamship

"POLYNESIEN,"

Captain Broc, will be despatched as above, on or about TUESDAY, the 26th instant.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
G. DE CHAMPEAUX,
Agent.

Hongkong, 21st December, 1905. [7

Intimations.

F. BLACKHEAD & CO.,

SHIP-CHANDLERS, SAILMAKERS COAL AND PROVISION MERCHANTS, NAVAL CONTRACTORS AND GENERAL COMMISSION AGENTS,

GROUND FLOOR,
ST. GEORGE'S BUILDING,
HONGKONG,

SOAP AND SODA MANUFACTURERS.

SOLE AGENTS FOR

HARTMANN'S RAHTJEN'S GENUINE COMPOSITION RED HAND BRAND, HARTMANN'S GREY PAINT, DAIMLER'S PATENT MOTOR LAUNCHES,
&c. &c. &c.

Sole Agents for
FERGUSON'S SPECIAL CREAM
and
P. & O. SPECIAL LIQUER SCOTCH WHISKY, &c.
EVERY KIND OF
SHIPS STORES AND REQUISITES ALWAYS IN STOCK
AT
REASONABLE PRICES

Hongkong, 7th March, 1905. [44

WILTSHIRE
As Supplied to
HARRIS'S
His Majesty The KING
BACON & HAMS

Gold Medals PARIS 1889 & 1900

Regd HARRIS CALNE WILTS Brand

HARRIS, CALNE-WILTS England.

REPRESENTATIVES FOR HONGKONG & CHINA,
HOWARD & Co.,
50, Queen's Road Central,
Hongkong.

Hongkong, 19th May, 1905. [579

MEE CHEUNG,

PHOTOGRAPHER,
TOP FLOOR OF ICE HOUSE, IN
Ice-House Road.

IS now in a position, in his New and Commodious Premises, to eclipse, as heretofore, ALL PHOTOGRAPHIC ART PRACTICED in the Colony or in any part of the Far East.

GROUPS AND VIEWS
a speciality.

Hongkong, 23rd September, 1905. [66

THE HONGKONG STUDIO,

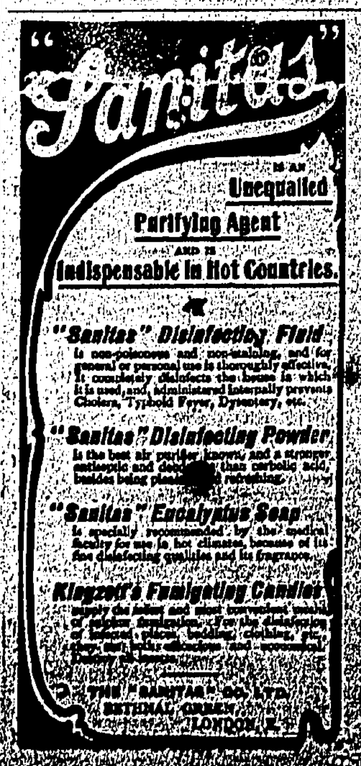
HIGHER CLASS PHOTOGRAPHER,
41 & 43, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL,
TOP FLOOR.

PORTRAITS, GROUPS and ENLARGING and COPYING in all Sizes.

LARGE SELECTION OF VIEWS ALWAYS ON HAND.

PRICE VERY MODERATE.

Hongkong, 15th September, 1905. [10



Consignees.

FROM HAMBURG, BREMEN, ROTTERDAM, ANTWERP, PENANG AND SINGAPORE.

[redacted] L. Steamship
"BRISGAVIA."

Captain Ross, having arrived from the above Ports, Consignees of Cargo are hereby requested to send in their Bills of Lading for countersignature by the Undersigned and to take immediate delivery of their goods from alongside.

Optional Cargo will be forwarded unless notice to the contrary be given before TO-DAY.

Any Cargo impeding her discharge will be landed into the hazardous and/or extra hazardous Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Limited, and stored at Consignees' risk and expense.

All Claims must be presented within ten days of the steamer's arrival here after which date they cannot be recognised.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns and all Goods remaining undelivered after the 23rd December, 1905 will be subject to rent.

All broken, chafed and damaged Goods are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on the 23rd December, 1905, at 3 P.M.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

HAMBURG-AMERIKA LINIE,
Hongkong Office.

Hongkong, 20th December, 1905. [1276

NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD, BREMEN.
IMPERIAL GERMAN MAIL LINE.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

THE Steamship

"GNEISENAU,"

having arrived, Consignees of Cargo are hereby informed that their Goods, with the exception of Opium, Treasure and Valuables, are being landed and stored at their risk into the hazardous and/or extra hazardous Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Limited, Kowloon, whence delivery may be obtained.

Optional Cargo will be forwarded unless notice to the contrary be given before 10 A.M., TO-MORROW.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns, and all Goods remaining undelivered after 27th instant will be subject to rent.

All broken, chafed, and damaged Goods are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on WEDNESDAY, 27th instant, at 9.30 A.M.

All Claims must reach us before the 2nd January, or they will not be recognized.

No Fire Insurance will be effected.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by the Undersigned.

NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD.
MELCHERS & Co.,
Agents.

Hongkong, 19th December, 1905. [5

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

THE P. & O. S. N. Co.'s Steamer

"MALACCA,"

FROM ANTWERP, LONDON, MALTA, PORT SAID, SUEZ AND STRAITS.

Consignees of Cargo by the above-named vessel are hereby informed that their Goods are being landed and placed *at their risk* in the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company's Godowns at Kowloon, where each consignment will be sorted out Mark by Mark, and delivery can be obtained as soon as the Goods are landed.

Optional Goods will be landed here unless instructions are given to the contrary before 2 P.M., TO-DAY.

Goods not cleared by the 24th instant, at 4 P.M., will be subject to rent.

No Fire Insurance will be effected by me in any case whatever.

Damaged Packages must be left in the Godowns for examination by the Consignee's and the Company's representative at an appointed hour.

All claims must be presented within ten days of the steamer's arrival here after which date they cannot be recognised.

No claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns.

E. A. HEWETT,
Superintendent.

Hongkong, 18th December, 1905. [5

BRITISH INDIA STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

FROM RANGOON AND STRAITS.

THE Company's Steamship

"SEALDA"

having arrived from the above Ports, Consignees of Cargo by her are hereby informed that their Goods will be delivered from alongside.

Cargo impeding the discharge or remaining on board after 4 P.M., TO-DAY, the 19th instant, will be landed at Consignees' risk and expense.

This Vessel brings on Cargo ex *Zamania* and *Tara* from Madras and Pondicherry.

No Fire Insurance will be effected.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by
JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.,
Agents.

Hongkong, 19th December, 1905. [1267

A WONDERFUL DISCOVERY.

This is the age of research and experiment, when all nature, so to speak, is ransacked by the scientific for the comfort and happiness of man. Science has indeed made giant strides during the past century, and among the, by no means least important, discoveries in medicine comes that of Therapion, particulars of which will be found in another column. This preparation is unquestionably one of the most genuine and reliable Patent Medicines ever introduced, and has, we understand, been used in the Continental Hospitals by Blood, Scanlan, Cipriani, Volpius, Malacrino, and the well-known Chassaignac, and indeed by all those who are regarded as authorities in such matters, including the celebrated Lallemand; and Roux, by whom it was some time since uniformly adopted, and that it is worthy the attention of those who require such a remedy. While there is no doubt, from the time of Aristotle downwards, a potent agent in the removal of those diseases that (like the famed philosopher's stone) been the object of search of some impetuous generous minds; and far beyond the mere power—if such could ever have been discovered—of transmuting the baser metals into gold is surely the discovery of a remedy so potent as to replenish the failing energies of the constitution, and in the one case, and in the other so effectually expedite and safely to expel from the system whether the acid or even the knowledge of a second party the poisons acquired or inherited disease in all their protean forms as to let [illegible] to be built up in the new [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

Mails.

MESSAGERIES MARITIMES

FRENCH MAIL STEAMERS.

STEAM FOR SAIGON, SINGAPORE, BATAVIA, COLOMBO, ADEN, EGYPT, MARSEILLES, LONDON, HAVRE, BORDEAUX, MEDITERRANEAN AND BLACK SEA PORTS.

The S.S. "ARMAND BEHIC,"

Captain Guionnet, will be despatched for MARSEILLES on TUESDAY, the 26th December, at 1 P.M.

Passage tickets and through Bills of Lading issued for above ports.

Cargo also booked for principal places in Europe.

Next sailings will be as follows:—

S.S. *ERNEST SIMONS*... 9th January.
S.S. *POLYNESIEN*.....23rd January.
S.S. *CALEDONIEN* ..... 6th February.

G. DE CHAMPEAUX,
Agent.

Hongkong, 12th December, 1905. [7

THE PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

STEAM FOR STRAITS, CEYLON, AUSTRALIA, INDIA, ADEN, EGYPT, MEDITERRANEAN PORTS, PLYMOUTH AND LONDON.

(Through Bills of Lading issued for BATAVIA, PERSIAN GULF, CONTINENTAL, AMERICAN and SOUTH AFRICAN PORTS.)

THE Steamship

"CHUSAN,"

Captain H. W. Kenrick, R.N.R., carrying His Majesty's Mails, will be despatched from this for BOMBAY, on SATURDAY, the 30th December, at Noon, taking Passengers and Cargo for the above Ports in connection with the Company's S.S. *Victoria*, 6,522 tons, from Colombo, Passengers' accommodation in which vessel is secured before departure from Hongkong.

Silk and Valuables, all Cargo for France and Tea for London (under arrangement) will be transhipped at Colombo into the Mail steamer proceeding direct to Marseilles and London; other Cargo for London, &c., will be conveyed from Bombay by the R.M.S. *Persia*, due in London on the 10th February, 1906.

Parcels will be received at this Office until P.M. the day before sailing. The Contents and Value of all Packages are required.

For further Particulars, apply to

E. A. HEWETT,
Superintendent.

Hongkong, 16th December, 1905. [7

Intimations.

HOO CHEONG,

昌 記

STATIONER AND PAPER MERCHANT,

No. 20, Pottinger Street.

HAS always on hand all varieties of Stationery, Printing and Note Papers, Copying Presses, also Automatic Cyclostyle and Ellams Duplicator.

Hongkong, 23rd February, 1905. [64

SELF CURE NO FICTION!
MARVEL UPON MARVEL!
NO SUFFERER NEED NOW DESPAIR,

but without running a doctor's bill or falling into the deep ditch of quackery, may safely, speedily and economically cure himself without the knowledge of a second party, by the introduction of

THE NEW FRENCH REMEDY
THERAPION,

a complete revolution has been wrought in this department of medical science, whilst thousands have been restored to health and happiness who for years previously had been merely dragging out a miserable existence.

THERAPION No. 1—A Sovereign Remedy for discharges from the urinary organs, superseding injections, the use of which does irreparable harm by laying the foundation of stricture and other serious diseases.

THERAPION No. 2—A Sovereign Remedy for primary and secondary skin eruptions, ulcerations, pains and swellings of the joints, and all those complaints which mercury and sarsaparilla are popularly but erroneously supposed to cure. This preparation purifies the whole system through the blood and thoroughly eliminates all poisonous matter from the body.

THERAPION No. 3—A Sovereign Remedy for debility, nervousness, impaired vitality, sleeplessness, distaste and incapacity for business or pleasure, love of solitude, blushing, indigestion, pains in the back and head, and all those disorders resulting from early error and excess which the faculty so persistently ignore, because so impotent to cure or even relieve.

THERAPION is sold by principal Chemists throughout the world. Price in England 2/9 & 4/6. In ordering, state which of the three numbers required, and observe that the word THERAPION appears on British Government Stamp (in white letters on a red ground) affixed to every package by order of His Majesty's Hon. Commissioners, and without which it is a forgery.

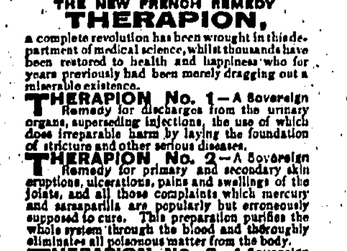
Sold by A. S. WATSON & Co., Ltd., Hongkong, China and Manila.

NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR DEBTS.

NEITHER the CAPTAIN, the AGENTS, nor the OWNERS will be RESPONSIBLE for any DEBTS contracted by the Officers or the Crews of the following vessels during her stay in Hongkong Harbour:—

ANAPA, British steamer, Capt. J. M. Williamson.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

CELTIC CHIEF, British ship, Captain John Jones.—Standard Oil Co.



Intimations.

HONGKONG HIGH-LEVEL TRAMWAYS COMPANY, LIMITED, IN LIQUIDATION.

TIME TABLE.

WEEK DAYS.

7.00 a.m.	to 7.30 a.m.	Every 10 minutes.
7.30 a.m.	to 8.00 a.m.	Every 10 minutes.
8.00 a.m.	to 8.30 a.m.	Every 15 minutes.
8.30 a.m.	to 9.30 a.m.	...Every 10 minutes.
9.30 a.m.	to 11.00 a.m.	...Every 15 minutes.
11.30 a.m.	to 12.45 p.m.	...Every 15 minutes.
12.45 p.m.	to 1.15 p.m.	...Every 10 minutes.
1.15 p.m.	to 1.45 p.m.	...Every 15 minutes.
1.45 p.m.	to 2.15 p.m.	Every 10 minutes.
2.15 p.m.	to 3.00 p.m.	...Every 15 minutes.
3.30 p.m.	to 5.00 p.m.	...Every 15 minutes.
5.00 p.m.	to 8.00 p.m.	...Every 10 minutes.

NIGHT CARS.

8.45 p.m. and 9 p.m., 9.45 p.m. to 11.15 p.m. every half hour.

SUNDAYS.

8.00 a.m.	to 9.00 a.m.	...Every 15 minutes.
9.00 a.m.	to 9.30 a.m.	...Every 30 minutes.
9.30 a.m.	to 10.30 a.m.	...Every 15 minutes.
10.30 a.m.	to 11.00 a.m.	...Every 10 minutes.
12.00 Noon	to 1.00 p.m.	...Every 10 minutes.
1.00 p.m.	to 5.00 p.m.	...Every 15 minutes.
5.00 p.m.	to 6.00 p.m.	...Every 10 minutes.
6.00 p.m.	to 7.00 p.m.	...Every 15 minutes.
7.00 p.m.	to 8.00 p.m.	...Every 10 minutes.

NIGHT CARS as on Week Days.

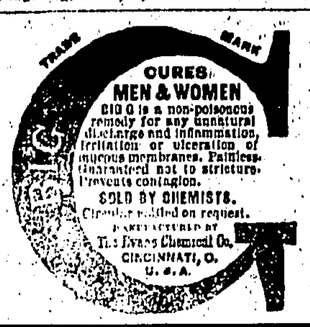
SATURDAYS.

Extra cars at 11.30 and 11.45 p.m.

SPECIAL CARS by Arrangement at the Company's Office, ALEXANDRA BUILDINGS, Des Vœux Road Central.

JOHN D. HUMPHREYS & SON,
Liquidators.

Hongkong, 12th July, 1905 [65



Shipping.

Arrivals.

Taming, Br. s.s., 1,353, A. W. Outerbridge, 21st Dec.,—Manila 19th Dec., Gen.—B. & S.

Pronto, Nor. s.s., 860, Hilien, 21st Dec.,—Haiphong and Hoihow 22th Dec., Gen.—A. R. M.

Kaifong, Br. s.s., 982, Finlayson, 22nd Dec.,—Iloilo via Manila 19th Dec., Sugar.—B. & S.

Taishun, Ch. s.s., 1,216, Jamieson, 22nd Dec.,—Shanghai 19th Dec., Gen.—C. M. S. N. Co.

Anghin, Ger. s.s., 1,201, D. Reimers, 22nd Dec.,—Bangkok via Anghin 14th Dec., Rice.—B. & S.

Yochow, Br. s.s., 1,705, J. H. Brown, 21st Dec.,—Canton 21st Dec., Gen.—B. & S.

Pakhoi, Br. s.s., 1,229, K. E. Tuebbin, 23rd Dec.,—Canton 22nd Dec., Gen.—B. & S.

Chiyuen, Ch. s.s., 1,173, C. Stewart, Dec., 23rd —Canton 22nd Dec., Gen.—C. M. S. N. Co.

Manaton, Br. s.s., 2,621, R. J. Work, 23rd Dec.,—Newcastle, N.S.W. 28th Nov., Coal.—S., T. & Co.

Nicomedia, Ger. s.s., 4,372, P. Wagmann, 23rd Dec.,—Portland, Or. 14th Nov., Gen.—P. & A. S. S. Co.

Clearances at the Harbour Office.

Herman Menzell, for Maulmein.
Daigi Maru, for Swatow.
Amigo, for Haiphong.
Anapa, for Singapore.
Eva, for Newcastle.
Chiyuen, for Shanghai.
Laertes, for Saigon.
Wakamatsu Maru, for Moji.
Pakhoi, for Chinkiang.
Pronto, for Haiphong.
Hoiching, for Kwong-chow-wan.
Hailan, for Pakhoi.
Pitsanulok, for Swatow.
Bangkok, for Bangkok.
Laisang, for Singapore.
Petrarch, for Saigon.
Chingtu, for Yokohama

Departures.

Dec. 23.

Tsipanas, for Shanghai.
Hongbee, for Amoy.
Laertes, for Saigon.
Haiuchang, for Shanghai.
China, for Shanghai.
Dupuen, for Singapore.
Bangkok, for Bangkok.
Laisang, for Calcutta.
Y. chow, for Shanghai.
Gera, for Odessa, Russia.
Stuttgart, for Odessa Russia
Waishing, for Foochow.
Anping, for Shanghai.
Thode Fagelund, for Newcastle, N.S.W.
Chingtu, for Japan.
Taishun, for Canton.

Passengers arrived.

Per *Taishun*, from Shanghai—Mr. Kruyer, and Corporal Brant.

Per *Kaifong*, from Manila—Mr., Mrs., Miss and Master Abolitis, and Mr. Reynolds.

Shipping Report.

Str. *Anghin* from Bangkok:—Very strong NE. monsoon, heavy sea.

Str. *Nicomedia* from Portland, Oregon:—During the voyage mostly NW'ly winds by rough sea.

Str. *Kaifong* from Iloilo:—Left Mariveles in tow of s.s. *Taming*, experienced strong NE. monsoon, with high sea.

Str. *Manaton* from Newcastle:—On 28th ult. to 21st inst., light winds and fine weather, on 22nd to 23rd moderate gale to strong winds, cloudy, overcast weather and heavy sea.

Str. *Gera* from Vladivostok:—Moderately N'ly winds and smooth sea from there to Shanghai, from thence to port strong NE. monsoon, with a rough sea. The harbour of Vladivostok was free of ice when we left.

Vessels in Port.

STEAMERS.

Alexander, Am. s.s., 1,785, Gove, 13th Nov.,—Cavite 9th Nov., Coal.—Order.

Algoa, Br. s.s., 4,897, A. Lockett, 17th Dec.,—San Francisco via Portland Tacoma and Japan Ports 17th Oct., Flour and Gen.—P. M. S. S. Co.

Amigo, Ger. s.s., 822, I. Iversen, 22nd Dec.,—Haiphong 15th Dec., and Hoihow 20th, Rice and Gen.—J. & Co.

Anapa, Br. s.s., 3,250, J. M. Williamson, 17th Dec.,—Moji 11th Dec., Coal.—D. & Co., Ld.

Apenrade, Ger. s.s., 611, A. P. Ulderup, 19th Dec.,—Tamsui 17th Dec., Ballast.—J. & Co.

Asama, Br. s.s., 2,705, F. H. Carr, 21st Dec.,—Shanghai 18th Dec., Ballast.—D. & Co., Ld.

Bechuana, Br. s.s., 2,751, P. J. Greggans, 22nd Dec.,—Singapore 14th Dec., Gen.—N. Y. K.

Catherine Apcar, Br. s.s., 1,730, A. Stewart, 19th Dec.,—Singapore 13th Dec., Gen.—D. S. & Co., Ld.

Daigi Maru, J. p. s.s., 846, S. Tagami, 20th Dec.,—Tamsui via Amoy and Swatow 19th Dec., Gen.—O. S. K.

Dr. Hans Jürg Tiser, Nor. s.s., 691, H. E. Larsen, 19th Dec.,—Iloilo 14th Dec., Sugar.—Aagaard & Thoresen Co.

Empress of China, Br. s.s., 3,046, R. Archibald, R.N.R., 19th Dec.,—Vancouver, B.C., 27th Nov., and Shanghai 16th Dec., Mails and Gen.—C. P. R. Co.

Haiching, Br. s.s., 1,267, A. E. Hodgins, 22nd Dec.,—Foochow 19th Dec., Amoy 20th, and Swatow 21st, Gen.—D., L. & Co.

Helene Rickmers, Ger. s.s., 3,600, Bernolelin, 17th Dec.,—Kutchinotzu 11th Dec., Coal.—B. & Co.

Hermann Mentell, Ger. s.s., 2,300, W. Hansen, 17th Dec.,—Amoy 16th Dec., Ballast.—F. A. T. Co.

Indrani, Br. s.s., 3,225, W. G. Williams, 22nd Dec.,—Amoy 20th Dec., Gen.—S., T. & Co.

Iris, Am. s.s., 1,362, Whiton, 7th Dec.,—Manila 4th Dec., Coal.—Order.

Madeleine Rickmers, Ger. s.s., 1,021, Simonsen, 17th Dec.,—Bangkok 9th Dec., Rice.—B. & S.

Mongolia, Am. s.s., 8,750, W. P. S. Porter, 22nd Dec.,—San Francisco 16th Nov., Honolulu 22nd, Yokohama 10th Dec., Kobe 15th, Nagasaki 16th, and Shanghai 20th, Mails and Gen.—P. M. S. S. Co.

Petrarch, Ger. s.s., 1,256, Hatje, 12th Dec.,—Probolingo 1st Dec., Sugar.—S., W. & Co.

Pitsanulok, Ger. s.s., 1,268, L. Gorcken, 16th Dec.,—Bangkok and Swatow 15th Dec., Rice.—B. & S.

Promise, Nor. s.s., 714, E. Torkensen, 10th Dec.,—Anping 6th Dec., Gen.—O. S. K.

Royalist, Br. s.s., 2,080, W. A. Scott, 24th Nov.,—Hongay 21st Nov., Coal.—J., M. & Co.

Thode Fagelund, Nor. s.s., 4,382, G. Staneford, 15th Dec.,—Newcastle, N.S.W., 23rd Nov., Coal.—S., T. & Co.

Titania, Ger. transport, 1,350, May, 15th Dec.,—Moji 10th Dec., Ballast.—Order.

Wakamatsu Maru, Jap. s.s., 1,720, S. Ota, 21st Dec.,—Moji 16th Dec., Coal.—H. U. Jeffries.

SAILING VESSELS.

Celtic Chief, Br. ship, 1,709, Jones, 9th Nov.,—Philadelphia, 10th June, Kerosine.—S. O. Co.

Rose, Br. bq., 822, Wright, 10th Nov.,—West Australia 4th Aug., Sandal Wood.—S. & Co.

Simla, Br. 4-masted bq., 2,087, Casson, 13th Dec.,—Cardiff 4th July, Patent Fuel.—Naval Yard.

Steamers Expected.

Vessels	From	Agents	Due
Japan	Singapore	P. & O. Co	Dec. 25
Zafiro	Manila	S., T. & Co	Dec. 25
Polynesien	Saigon	M. M.	Dec. 26
Benarty	Singapore	G., L. & Co	Dec. 26
China	Japan	P. M. Co.	Dec. 27
Empire	P. Darwin	G., L. & Co	Dec. 28
Monmou'shire	Singapore	S., T. & Co	Dec. 28
Athenian	Vancouver	C. P. R. Co	Jan. 3
Taiyuan	Sydney	B. & S.	Jan. 5

DOCK RETURNS.

HONGKONG AND WHAMPOA DOCKS.

H.M.S. Sutlej	"	Kowloon	Dock.
Kwong Tung	"	"	"
Empress of China	"	"	"
Algoa	"	"	"
Argus	"	"	"
Bangkok	"	"	"
Madeline Rickmers	"	"	"
Paul Beau	"	"	"
Eva	"	"	"
Haiching	"	Cosmopolitan	"
Chingtu	"	Aberdeen	"

SHANGHAI.

16th inst.

Pollux	Tunkadoo,	Dec.	13.
Esang	Old,	"	15.

Ships Passed The Canal.

Arrivals at Home—2nd December—*Zieten, Longsor, Suevia, Silesia*, (Ger.) 5th December—*Rencleuch, Bengloe*, 8th December—*Agamemnon, Sierra Blanca, Slavonia*, 8th December—*Peru*, 12th December—*Princess Alice, Den of Mains, Diomed* 16th December—*Salacia, Seneca, J. P. Chapman*, 19th December—*Borussia, Albenga*, 23rd December—*Oceanien, Satsuma*.

Post Office.

A Mail will close for:—

Singapore, Penang and Colombo — Per *Manica*, 24th Dec., 9 A.M.

Singapore, Penang and Colombo — Per *Nubia*, 24th Dec., 9 A.M.

Swatow, Singapore and Bangkok — Per *Madeleine Rickmers*, 24th Dec., 9 A.M.

Yokohama and Kobe—Per *Chingtu*, 25th Dec., 9 A.M.

Hoihow—Per *Apenra'e*, 25th Dec., 9 A.M.

Macao—Per *Heungshan*, 25th Dec., 9 A.M.

Singapore—Per *Glaucus*, 25th Dec., 9 A.M.

Moji—Per *Wakamatsu Maru*, 25th Dec., 9 A.M.

Pakhoi—Per *Hailan*, 25th Dec., 9 A.M.

Shanghai—Per *Chiyuen*, 25th Dec., 9 A.M.

Macao—Per *Heungkan*, 26th Dec., 9 A.M.

Saigon—Per *Petrarch*, 26th Dec., 10 A.M.

Europe, &c., India, *via* Tuticorin—Per *Armand Behic*, 26th Dec., 11 A.M.

Chinkiang—Per *Pakhoi*, 26th Dec., 11.30 A.M.

Ningpo and Shanghai—Per *Ichang*, 26th Dec., 11.30 A.M.

Macao—Per *Heungshan*, 26th Dec., 1.15 P.M.

Moji, Kobe, Yokohama and Portland, Or.—Per *Nicomedia*, 27th Dec., 10 A.M.

Swatow, Amoy and Foochow—Per *Haimun*, 27th Dec., 10 A.M.

Shanghai, Nagasaki, Kobe, Yokohama, Honolulu and San Francisco—Per *Mongolia*, 27th Dec., 11 A.M.

Macao—Per *Heungkan*, 27th Dec., 1.15 P.M.

Shanghai—Per *Kwongsang*, 27th Dec., 2 P.M.

Manila, Zamboanga, Port Darwin, Thursday Island, Cooktown, Cairns, Townsville, Brisbane, Sydney, Hobart, Launceston, New Zealand, Melbourne, Adelaide and Perth—Per *Changsha*, 27th Dec., 3 P.M.

Manila, Port Darwin, Thursday Island, Cooktown, Cairns, Townsville, Brisbane, Sydney and Melbourne—Per *Australian*, 28th Dec., 11 A.M.

Macao—Per *Heungshan*, 28th Dec., 1.15 P.M.

Singapore, Penang and Calcutta — Per *Catherine Apcar*, 28th Dec., 2 P.M.

Cebu and Iloilo—Per *Sunghiang*, 28th Dec., 3 P.M.

Moji, Kobe, Yokohama, Victoria, B.C., and Tacoma, Wash.—Per *Lyra*, 29th Dec., 11 A.M.

Macao—Per *Heungshan*, 29th Dec., 1.15 P.M.

Europe, &c., India, *via* Tuticorin—Per *Canton*, 30th Dec., 11 A.M.

Manila—Per *Zafiro*, 30th Dec., 11 A.M.

Macao—Per *Heungshan*, 30th Dec., 1.15 P.M.

Kobe and Nagasaki—Per *Chihli*, 2nd Jan., 1906, 3 P.M.

Europe, &c., India, *via* Tuticorin—Per *Prinz Eitel Friedrich*, 3rd Jan., 1906, 11 A.M.

Manila—Per *Rubi*, 4th Jan., 1906, 11 A.M.

Singapore, Penang and Calcutta — Per *Namsang*, 6th Jan., 1906, 2 P.M.

Swatow, Amoy and Tamsui—Per *Onsang*, 3rd Jan., 1906, 2 P.M.

Simpsonhafen, Fr. Wilhelmshafen, Herbertshohe, Matupi, Brisbane, Sydney and Melbourne—Per *Prinz Waldemar*, 9th Jan., 1906, 11 A.M.

Shanghai, Nagasaki, Kobe, Yokohama, Victoria and Vancouver, B.C.—Per *Empress of China*, 10th Jan., 1906, 11 A.M.

Shanghai, Nagasaki, Kobe, Yokohama, Victoria and Vancouver, B.C.—Per *Athenian*, 24th Jan., 1906, 11 A.M.

CHRISMAS AND NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS.

Christmas Day, Boxing Day, and New Year's day have been declared public holidays. On Christmas Day the Post Office will be open from 8 a.m. till 9 a.m. There will be one delivery and one collection as on Sundays. In the event of the French Mail arriving from Europe the Post Office will open for one hour after the mail is sorted. On Boxing Day the Post Office will remain open until the French Mail for Europe is despatched at Noon.

On New Year's day the Post Office will be closed except from 8 a.m. till 9 a.m. There will be one delivery of letters and one collection as on Sundays.

The Money Order Office will be entirely closed during the holidays.

☞ Mails for Canton, Samshui, Wuchow and Macao will be closed on week days at 7.30 every morning. On Sundays the mail for Macao will be closed at 8 a.m., and that for Canton at 9 a.m.

Mails for Namtao, Sanbue, Kongmoon, Kumchuk, Samshui, Wuchow and Canton every evening at 5 p.m. On Sundays the mails will be closed at 9 a.m.

No mail will be closed for Canton on Saturday evening.

☞ On and after 15th July, 1905, the rate of postage on letters from Hongkong and the British Postal Agencies in China to Australia will be at the rate for 4 cents for each half ounce instead of 10 cents as at present.

The rate of postage on letters from Australia to Hongkong and the British Postal Agencies in China will be reduced from 2½d. to 2d. for each half ounce.

VISITORS AT THE HOTELS.

PEAK.

Aucott, E. F.	Knight, Mr.
Beattie, A.	Louder, Mr.
Bentinck, Mrs.	Martin, R.
Buxton, Lady B.	Mitchell, R.
Chichester, Maj. A. A.	Moss, Mrs.
Clothier, A. N.	Moxon, Mr. and Mrs
Cocks, Mr. & Mrs. A. E.	Ollis, F. B.
Daniel, Mr.	Painter, Major & Mrs.
Darling, Col.	Parry, Major
Earnshaw, D.	Peeble, Mr.
Fenton, Mr.	Philips, Mr. and Mrs.
Gales, Capt.	Pollock, K.C., Mr.
Gaster, E.	Quennell, Capt.
Gearle, Rev.	Sawer, Capt. and Mrs.
Gracey, Mr.	Sinclair, A.
Harker, B. Brotherton	Stadt, Mr. and Mrs Van de
Hassan, Mr. and Mrs.	Stokes, Mr.
Haynes, Col.	Thomas, Mrs. Carl
Hazeland, F. A.	Thomas, Misses
Howard, Mr. and Mrs. W. H.	Vandin, Gordon
Hughes, Mr.	Vereker, Capt. & Mrs.
Jacks, Mr.	Watson, Mr. & Mrs. M.
Jeffries, H. U.	White, Dr. M. J.
Joseph, Mr. and Mrs.	Wilkie, Mr. and Mrs. John
Josling, Lt.-Col.	Woodward, Mr. & Mrs
Kaye, Major and Mrs.	
Kelsall, Major & Mrs.	

CRAIGIERNURN.

Barnett, H. J. O.	Jamieson, P. S.
Dann, G. H.	Reynolds, F. O.
Dow, P.	Smith, E. Grant
Falloon, C. H.	Smith, Mr. and Mrs Grant
Gaskell, Mr. and Mrs.	Smith, Percy
Harben, Mr. and Mrs.	Soppa, P.
Harvey, Capt. & Mrs.	Webb, Mr. and Mrs.
Marchant, Capt. and Mrs. and children	Montague

HONGKONG.

Acheson, Mrs.	Hurst, R.N., Engineer-Capt.
Anderson, Mrs. K.	Hunter, R.
Battiscombe, H. G.	Innes, Capt. R.
Beauchamp, G.	Jameson, Mr. and Mrs. J. W.
Bell, R.N., Engr.-Lieut. H. F.	Johannsen, Edm.
Bernard, P.	Jokl, S. P. F.
Birbeck, R. J.	Kent, H. W.
Bishop, L. C.	Kerr, F.
Bisney, S.	Kerr, Mr. & Mrs. J. K.
Bissell, W. S.	King, Mr. and Mrs. G. R.
Boase, M. & Mrs. A. J.	Koenig, C.
Bonnar, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. C.	Kopp, A.
Bonner, E. A.	Laing, A. H.
Borthwick, R. W.	Lecomte, G.
Borthwick, Mrs. R. W. and child	Lewis, A. R.
Bosson, Jr., Mrs. G. C.	Lewis, L. S.
Boyce, W. S.	Marriott, Dr. O.
Brener, Ob.	Maze, F. W.
Brougball, L.	McCulloch, Mr. and Mrs. J. L.
Burnie, C. M. G.	McCulloch, Miss
Burth, H. H.	Meier, Mr. and Mrs. John
Carter, W. L.	Metcalf, Mr. & Mrs. H. W.
Catturinich, A.	Miller, P. L.
Chatham, Hon. & Mrs. W.	Moon, Mr. & Mrs. E. M.
Cheshire, F. D.	Moore, Dr. W. B. A.
Clark, M. O.	Morrison, Mrs. & child
Clark, T.	Morley, J. P.
Clarke, Mr. and Mrs. T. W.	Moulder, Mr. and Mrs. A. B.
Clegg, R.N., Eng. Lt. and Mrs. H. I.	Navarro, Mrs.
Colls, Misses	Newall, S. G.
Colls, Mrs.	Newington, A. G.
Colvin, H. E.	Nicholls, E. A.
Copp, Mrs and Miss	Oliffe, O. C.
Coulthart, J.	Palmer, E. L.
Cruickshank, A.	Pan, F. N. Le
Cunningham, G.	Pangborn, Mrs. H.
Davies, F. D.	Parfitt, W.
Deacon, F. B.	Patey, Mrs. E. O.
Doolittle, F. H.	Peake, W.
Douglas, Capt. & Mrs. J.	Pecker, B. L.
Dowley, Mr. and Mrs. W. A.	Pennefather, Mrs. G. H.
Downing, Mr. T. C.	Pfordten, A. R.
Drake, Mrs. F. J.	Pigott, C.
Dresser, J. H.	Powell, W. A.
Dupree, W. S.	Prath, W. C.
Eddy, Mr. and Mrs. R. A. and maid	Reynolds, Mr. & Mrs. A. G.
Ellis, R. H.	Roach, Mrs. J. S. and child
Evan-Jones, Dr. and Mrs. E.	Robbins, R.N., Lieut. and Mrs. J. F.
Fabling, Mr. & Mrs. R.	Robeson, Miss H. H.
Fisher, Mrs. J. C.	Scott, Mr. and Mrs. J. G. and child
Fisher, R.	Shea, J. J.
Fletcher, H.	Skott, C.
Follmer, C. C.	Sleigh, H. C.
Frankels, C. W.	Snell, Mr. and Mrs. L.
Graham, Mr. and Mrs. W. D.	Somerville, Geo.
Grant, R.N., Capt. and Mrs.	Spittles, J. S.
Gratton, R. H.	Sprague, R. W.
Gray, T. C.	Stein, A. L.
Hall, Capt. T.	Stephens, H.
Hanghwont, W. B.	Stevenson, R.N., Lieut. Con.dr. and Mrs. E.
Hardy, R.N., Lt. and Mrs. C. T.	Tait, E. G.
Harker, B. B.	Thomas, H. P.
Harvey, R. B.	Thomas, Miss M. L.
Hemperly, Mr. & Mrs. J. H.	Valentini, V.
Hodgson, C. A. G.	Wakefield, Mrs. and Miss
Hodgson, C. B. M.	Watkins, Miss E.
Hollingsworth, Mr. & Mrs.	Webb, A. E.
Holt, B. G.	Whitlow, A. W.
Humphreys, Mr. and Mrs. H.	Winchester, W. C.
	Wright, Mr. & Mrs. T.
	Young, J. A.

KING EDWARD.

Barnes, Mrs.	Fraker, C. H.
Bennecke, Madame	Jackson, Mrs. and child
Burke, F. E.	Kendall, Geo. F.
Burrill, H. R.	Kendall, Miss M. A.
Campbell, Mr. & Mrs. D. M.	Levy, Mr. and Mrs. L. M.
Cunnings, H. W.	Lugebil, V.
Double, R.N., Comdr. Thorpe	Moody, Mrs. J. L.
Double, Mrs.	Moses, E. J.
Douglas, Miss	Nursaw, E.
Doyle, Major	Seymour, Mrs. I. K.
Earlscliffe, Herbert	Sherman, Mr. and Mrs. R. H.
Early, Miss R.	Smith, Mrs.
Early, Miss M. J.	Squair, Alex. C.
Finlay, F. K.	Stuperaky, A.
Fraser, Mr. and Mrs. H. W.	Textor, Capt. H.
	Unbehaun, C. H.

OCCIDENTAL.

Caspersen, S.	Mujer, Capt. and Mrs. and child
Chandler, Lieut. F.	Manrei, W. H.
Cox, R.N., Lieut.-Com. H.	Munro, Miss A.
Hachne, Dr. Med.	Owen, O. E.
Hales, G. L.	Saxton, Maj. J. J. O. B.
Keyt, Dr. H.	Schaake, Lt.-Comdr. and Mrs. W.
Kober, Dr. Med.	Schönberg, Victor.
Krill, G.	Vaughan, H.
Lowe, Mr. and Mrs.	Stoltz, H.
Lowe, Miss Siesie	
Manrei, H.	

KOWLOON.

Ainslie, Dr. D. H.	Binder, Mrs. F. C.
Charlton, R.N., Capt. and Mrs. E. and nurse	Crawford, Mrs. A.
	Hall, A. J.
	Reynolds, F. O.

TO-MORROW.

St. Peter's Seamen's Church.
Queen's Road, West.
Four Sunday in Advent.

Morning Prayer 11 a.m.; Venite, Russell; Te Deum, Jackson; Benedictus, Garrett; Hymns, 59, 62, and 72, Kyrie.

Evening Prayer, 6.30 p.m., Cantate, Crotch; Deus, Goss; Hymns, 82, 594 and 26.

Anthem "The people that Satin darkness."

Holy Communion 7.45 p.m.

The Church launch *Dayspring* will call on ships carrying white crews to bring friends ashore to the services between 9.15 and 10.30 a.m., and between 5.15 and 6 p.m., (Kowloon Police Pier, 10.30 and 6 p.m.); returning afterwards. The Answering Pennant is the Call flag. All the sittings are free and unappropriated. Visitors welcome. Books, &c. provided.

Sunday school 10 to 10.45 a.m.

Christmas Day Services.

Holy Communion 7.30 a.m. Morning Prayer 10 o'clock.

Roman Catholic Cathedral:—Mass at 6 a.m., 7 a.m., 8 a.m., and 9.30 a.m. Benediction, 5.30 p.m.

German Bethesda Chapel, West Point:—Morning Service, 11 a.m.

St. Francis' Church, Wanchai:—Mass *(Chin.)*, 6 a.m., *(Port.)*, 7.30 a.m. Benediction, 5 p.m.

St. Joseph's Church, Garden Road:—Morning Service *(English)*, 9 a.m.

St. Anthony's Chapel, West Point:—Mass, 8 a.m.

Union Church:—Services, 11 a.m., and 6 p.m.

CHINA COAST METEOROLOGICAL REGISTER.

December 22nd, 1905, a.m.

		Bar.	Th.	Hu.	Wind		Wr.
Vladivostock	7 a.m.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nemuro	6 a.m.	29.65	—	—	W	6	—
Hakodate	"	29.85	—	—	NW	8	—
Tokio	"	29.98	—	—	NW	2	—
Kochi	"	30.23	—	—	SW	2	—
Nagasaki	"	30.35	—	—	N	6	—
Kagoshima	"	30.35	—	—	NW	4	—
Oshima	"	30.32	—	—	NW	8	—
Naha	"	30.33	—	—	NE	6	—
Ishigakijima	"	30.25	—	—	NE	4	—
Taihoku	5 a.m.	30.28	—	—	E	6	—
Taichu	"	30.19	—	—	—	0	—
Tainan	"	30.17	—	—	—	0	—
Koshun	"	30.18	—	—	NE	10	—
Pescadores	"	30.19	—	—	NE	10	—
Weihaiwei	9 a.m.	30.59	35	—	NNE	—	b
Gutzlaff	"	30.56	35	—	NNW	4	cm
Sharp Peak	"	30.42	52	79	NNW	3	og
Amoy	6.30 a.m.	30.26	58	53	NE	3	o
Swatow	9 a.m.	30.24	51	79	NNW	1	c
Canton	"	30.33	53	80	NW	1	b
Hongkong	10 a.m.	30.29	59	65	E	5	o
Victoria Peak	"	—	—	—	E	5	—
Gap Rock	"	30.25	—	—	NNE	6	—
Macao	"	30.04	62	—	N	1	c
Haiphong	"	—	—	—	—	—	—
Manila	"	30.00	84	71	S	0	c
Bacolod	9 a.m.	—	—	—	NE	3	b
Iloilo	"	29.93	82	—	NE	1	b
Cebu	"	—	86	—	N	4	c
C. St. James	10 a.m.	—	—	—	—	—	—

December 23rd, 1905, a.m.

Vladivostock	7 a.m.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nemuro	6 a.m.	29.96	—	—	W	8	—
Hakodate	"	30.21	—	—	NW	6	—
Tokio	"	30.34	—	—	NW	4	—
Kochi	"	30.46	—	—	SW	2	—
Nagasaki	"	30.54	—	—	—	0	—
Kagoshima	"	30.50	—	—	NE	4	—
Oshima	"	30.43	—	—	NE	4	—
Naha	"	30.37	—	—	NE	4	—
Ishigakijima	"	30.25	—	—	E	6	—
Taihoku	5 a.m.	30.22	—	—	E	6	—
Taichu	"	30.25	—	—	—	0	—
Tainan	"	30.23	—	—	N	2	—
Koshun	"	30.21	—	—	NE	4	—
Pescadores	"	30.23	—	—	NE	8	—
Weihaiwei	9 a.m.	30.62	33	—	W	3	b
Gutzlaff	"	30.53	48	71	E	3	cv
Sharp Peak	"	30.30	56	87	NNW	2	o
Amoy	6.30 a.m.	30.23	58	81	NE	2	o
Swatow	9 a.m.	30.25	57	81	NE	3	b
Canton	"	30.34	50	70	NW	1	c
Hongkong	10 a.m.	30.29	62	77	ENE	5	o
Victoria Peak	"	—	—	—	E	7	—

Intimations.

THE HONGKONG FROZEN FOOD SUPPLY.

THE DEPOT OPENS AT 6 A.M.

THE following are in Stock:—
PRIME AUSTRALIAN BEEF, MUTTON, LAMB, PORK AND VEAL.
DAIRY FARM FED PORK.

Apples, Choice Canadian	0.30 per lb
Australian Oysters, 2½ doz.; bottles	$1.00 per bot.
" " 5 "	1.90 per large bottle.
Australian Smoked Mullet	0.50 per lb
do do Schnapper	0.50 "
Bacon, Best Eng.	0.75 "
Bacon, Best Aust.	0.70 "
'Carno' Meat Extract, 2 oz.	0.70 per pot.
do do 4 oz.	1.25 "
Capons, Dairy Farm Fed (dressed)	1.05 each.
Chickens do do	0.75 "
Chickens' Livers	0.04 "
Chickens' Gizzards	0.04 "
Ducks, Local (dressed)	0.65 "
Ducks, Wild	0.75 "
Geese, Local (dressed)	1.50 "
Hares, Australian 1st Grade	1.40 "
Ham, Best York	0.70 per lb
Ham, Australian, "Pineapple" Brand"	0.65 "
(2 cts. extra per lb for Ham if cut).	
Honey, Best Aust.	0.60 "
Kidneys, Australian Sheep	0.05 each
Oysters, American (large size, in tins)	2.50 per tin
Partridges, Local	0.75 each
Pigeons, Local	0.25 "
Pigeons, Wild (dressed)	0.20 "
Rabbits, Australian 1st Grade	0.65 "
Rice Birds	1.00 per doz.
Sausages, Australian Fritz	0.60 "
Sausages, Own Make (of Australian Meats)	0.25 "
Tongues, Australian Sheep	0.20 each
Turkeys, Choice Australian (plucked)	0.70 per lb

SPECIAL NOTE.

Orders required to be filled in the Early Morning should be sent in before 3.30 P.M. the previous day.

Orders for NOON should be sent in by 8.00 A.M. the same day.

Orders for 3.30 P.M. should be sent in by NOON the same day.

Hongkong, 21st December, 1905. [988

Make your

XMAS

AND

NEW YEAR'S

PURCHASE

FROM

A. CHAZALON & CO.,

6, Queen's Road, Central.

Just Received

A Select Assortment of ENGLISH and FRENCH Confectionery from the best makers of London and Paris.

MARRONS GLACES
FONDANTS FOURRES
PRALINES
DRAGEES
PATES PECTORALES
NOUGAT
PAPILOTTES
CRYSTALLISED FRUITS
} AT MODERATE PRICES.

FRENCH CHOCOLATE.
CADBURY'S "
LOWNEY'S "
PETER'S "

ALSO

ASSORTMENT FRENCH BISCUITS, CHAMPAGNE, PORT WINE, SHERRY, LIQUERS, BRANDY, WHISKY, &c., &c., from the most renowned Houses in France and other foreign countries.

Hongkong, 11th December, 1905. [1225

CUTLER, PALMER & CO.

WINE & SPIRIT MERCHANTS,

OF

LONDON, INDIA, CHINA, JAPAN AND AUSTRALIA.

ESTABLISHED 1815.

	Per Case.
BRANDY	$22.50
"	20.00
"	16.75
WHISKY, PALL MALL	20.00
" JOHN WALKER & SONS' OLD HIGHLAND	12.50
" C. P. & CO.'S SPECIAL BLEND	10.50
PORT WINE, INVALIDS	20.00
" DOURO	13.75
SHERRY, AMOROSO	20.00
" LA TORRE	16.00
BENEDICTINE, D.O.M.	40.50

THE ABOVE EXCLUSIVELY SHIPPED TO

SIEMSSEN & CO.,

HONGKONG AGENTS.

Hongkong, 15th November, 1905. [1123

ACHEE & CO.

ESTABLISHED 1859.

FURNITURE,

GENERAL HOUSEHOLD

REQUISITES

&c., &c., &c.

DEPOT

FOR

EASTMAN'S

KODAKS, FILMS,

AND

ACCESSORIES.

Telephone 256.

AMATEUR WORK Receives **PROMPT** and **CAREFUL ATTENTION.**

Hongkong, 16th May, 1905 [14

SHARE QUOTATIONS.

Supplied by Messrs. BENJAMIN, KELLY & POTTS. Corrected to noon; later alterations given under "Commercial Intelligence," page 5.

STOCKS.	NO. OF SHARES.	VALUE.	PAID UP.	POSITION AS PER LAST REPORT. RESERVE.	POSITION AS PER LAST REPORT. AT WORKING ACCOUNT.	LAST DIVIDEND.	APPROXIMATE RETURN AT PRESENT QUOTATION.	CLOSING QUOTATIONS.
BANKS.								
Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation	80,000	$125	$125	£1,000,000 / $8,500,000 / $250,000	$1,702,728	£1 15/- @ exchange 1/10½=$18.66.67 for first half-year 1905	5 %	$865 sellers / London 1/9½ / $38 buyers
National Bank of China, Limited	99,925	£7	£5	$200,000	$41,768	$2 (London 3/6) for 1903	...	...
MARINE INSURANCES.								
Canton Insurance Office, Limited	10,000	$250	$50	$1,600,000 / $147,895	$211,540	$20 for 1904	6⅔ %	$325 sellers
China Traders' Insurance Company, Limited	24,000	$83.33	$25	$970,000 / $169,215 / $202,455 / $296,955	Nil.	$4½ for year ended 30.1.1905	5⅓ %	184 sellers
North China Insurance Company, Limited	10,000	£15	£5	£1,000 / Tls. 100,000 / Tls. 50,000	Tls. 302,053	Final of 7/6 making 15/- for 1904	5⅓ %	Tls. 90 buyers
Union Insurance Society of Canton, Limited	10,000	$250	$100	$2,000,000 / £40,000 / $311,453 / $1,043,910 / $1,152,364	$2,339,112	$40 for 1904	5⅓ %	1710 buyers
Yangtsze Insurance Association, Limited	8,000	$100	$60	$750,000 / $5,000 / $5,810	$486,284	$12 and $3 special dividend for 1903	8⅓ %	$170
FIRE INSURANCES.								
China Fire Insurance Company, Limited	20,000	$100	$20	$1,000,000 / $218,193 / $2,241	$329,047	$6 dividend & $1 bonus for 1903	6⅓ %	$87 buyers
Hongkong Fire Insurance Company, Limited	8,000	$250	$50	$1,200,505	$360,372	$34 for 1903	11 %	$330
SHIPPING.								
China and Manila Steamship Company, Limited	30,000	$25	$25	$5,000	$8,832	$1 for 1904	4⅓ %	$22
Douglas Steamship Company, Limited	20,000	$50	$50	$261,638 / $88,942	Nil.	$3½ for year ended 30.6.1905	10 %	$35 buyers
Hongkong, Canton & Macao Steamboat Co., Ltd.	80,000	$15	$11	$250,000 / $600,000 / $145,376	18,074	$1 for first half-year 1905	8 %	$24 buyers
Indo-China Steam Navigation Company, Limited	60,000	£10	£10	£120,000 / £241,150 / £3,999	£4,435	12/- @ 1/10½=$6.29.51 for 1904	6⅓ %	$91 sales
Shanghai Tug and Lighter Company, Limited	200,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	Tls. 25,000	Tls. 43,762	Interim of Tls. 2 for 1905	8 %	Tls. 58 buyers
Do. (Preference)	100,000					Interim of Tls. 1½ for 1905	8 %	Tls. 47 buyers
"Shell" Transport and Trading Company, Limited	2,000,000	£1	£1	£400,000 / £4,116	£58,852	1/- (Coupon No. 5) for 1904	4⅓ %	2/-
"Star" Ferry Company, Limited	10,000	$10	$10	$65,000	$929	$1.80 / $0.90 for year ending 30.4.1905	5⅓ % / 4 %	$32 sellers / $25 sellers
	10,000	$10	$5	$24,257				
Straits Steamship Company, Limited	5,000	100	$100	$400,000 / $ 21,075 / $130,153	$21,231	$10 for 1904	7 %	$149 buyers
Yalu Tug and Lighter Company, Limited	20,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	Tls. 98,000 / Tls. 190,479 / Tls. 28,000 / Tls. 81,200	Tls. 4,333	Interim of Tls. 2 for 1905	9⅓ %	Tls. 35 buyers
REFINERIES.								
China Sugar Refining Company, Limited	20,000	$100	$100	$450,000 / $150,000	$42,812	Interim of $10 for 1905	10 %	$200 sellers
Luzon Sugar Refining Company, Limited	7,000	$100	$100	none	Dr. $85,987	$3 for 1897	...	$25 buyers
Perak Sugar Cultivation Company, Limited	7,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	Tls. 100,000	Tls. 3,723	Tls. 2½ for year ending 30.9.04	...	Tls. 62 sales
MINING.								
Chinese Engineering and Mining Company, Ltd.	1,000,000	£1	£1	£80,000 / £26,011	£13,355	Final of 1/- (No. 5)	...	Tls. 9 sellers
Oriental Consolidated Mining Company, Limited	500,000	G. $10	G. $10	none	G $672,093	Interim of 50 cents (gold) for 1905 (No. 5)	...	G. $17
Raub Australian Gold Mining Company, Limited	150,000	£1	18/10.	£4,873	Dr. £8,745	No. 12 of 1/-=48 cents	...	$4 buyers
	50,000	£1	£1					
DOCKS, WHARVES & GODOWNS.								
Farnham, (S. C.) Boyd & Co., Limited	55,200	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	Tls. 1,000,000	Tls. 34,924	Final of Tls. 8 making Tls. 13 for 1904/5	10 %	Tls. 130 buyers
Fenwick (Geo.) & Co., Limited	6,000 / 12,000	$25	$25	$70,000	$8,577	$3.75 for 1904 on old capital / First year	...	$25 buyers / $24½ buyers
Hongkong & Kowloon Wharf and Godown, Co., Ld.	40,000	$50	$50	$250,000 / $58,473 / $10,000 / $300,000	$29,422	Interim of $2½ for 1905	4⅓ %	$109
Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company, Ld.	50,000	$50	$50	$41,500	$501,332	$6 for first half-year 1905	8 %	$163 buyers
New Amoy Dock Company, Limited	10,000	$6⅔	$6⅔	$55,500	Dr. 10,260	$1⅓ for 1903	7 %	$17
Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf Company	32,000	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	Tls. 487,210 / Tls. 59,880	Tls. 10,711	Interim of Tls. 6 for 1905	5⅓ %	Tls. 210
Yangtsze Wharf and Godown Company, Limited	2,500	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	Tls. 17,500	Tls. 2,762	Tls. 18 for 1904	9⅓ %	Tls. 190 buyers
LANDS, HOTELS & BUILDING.								
Astor House Hotel Company, Limited (Shanghai)	20,000	$25	$25	$14,516	$9,028	$2½ for year ended 30.6.1905	9 %	$27½ sales
Astor House Hotel, Limited (Tientsin)	2,000	T.Tls. 50	T.Tls. 50	Tls. 34,000 / Tls. 8,000	Tls. 806	Interim of Tls. 5 for year 1905/6	8⅓ %	Tls. 130
Central Stores, Limited	6,000	$15	$12			Final of 60 cents making $1.80 for 1904	12 %	$15
Do. (Founders')	123	$15	$12	$20,000	$1,502	None	...	$100
Do. (New Issue)	24,000	$15	$7½			Preferential of 7 per cent for 1904	7 %	$7½ buyers
Hongkong Hotel Company, Limited	12,000	$50	$50	$648,975 / $31,087	$10,126	$5 for first half-year 1905	6⅔ %	$150 sales
Hongkong Land Investment and Agency Co., Ld.	50,000	$100	$100	$250,000	$37,875	Interim of $3½ for 1905	5⅓ %	$125 sellers
Hotel des Colonies Company, Limited (Shanghai)	9,000	Tls. 25	Tls. 25	Tls. 20,986	Tls. 7,202	Interim of Tls. 1	15 %	Tls. 16 sellers
Hotel Metropole Company, Limited	2,000	$100	$100	.....	First year	Final of $6 making $10	9⅓ %	$102½
Humphreys Estate & Finance Company, Limited	150,000	$10	$10	$200,994 / $50,000	$11,958	90 cents for 1904	7½ %	$12 buyers
Kowloon Land and Building Company, Limited	6,000	$50	$30	none	$377	$3 for 1904	7½ %	$40 buyers
Shanghai Land Investment Company, Limited	57,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	Tls. 828,813 / Tls. 170,000	Tls. 40,066	Interim of Tls. 3 for 1905	6⅔ %	Tls. 120 sellers
Tientsin Hotel des Colonies, Limited	1,400	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	none	Tls. 670	Interim of Tls. 3 for 1905	12 %	Tls. 45 sellers
Tientsin Land Investment Company, Limited	7,726	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	Tls. 67,300	Tls. 725	Interim of Tls. 3 for 1905	6 %	Tls. 115 sellers
West Point Building Company, Limited	12,500	$50	$50	none	$1,247	Interim of $1½ for 1905	6⅔ %	$55 sellers
COTTON MILLS.								
Ewo Cotton Spinning and Weaving Company, Ld.	15,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	Tls. 45,939	Tls. 100,000	Tls. 8 for year ended 31.10.1904	17½ %	Tls. 46 sales
Hongkong Cotton Spinning, Weaving and Dyeing Company, Limited	125,000	$10	$10	$30,000	$23,264	$1 for the year ending 31.7.05	7 %	$13½
International Cotton Manufacturing Company, Ld.	70,000	Tls. 75	Tls. 75	Tls. 100,000	Tls. 18,718	Interim of 3 % a/c 1898	...	Tls. 40 buyers
Laou-kung-mow Cotton Spinning & Weaving Co., Ld.	8,000	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	none	Tls. 10,000	Interim of 4 % a/c 1898	...	Tls. 60 sellers
Soy Chee Cotton Spinning Company, Limited	2,000	Tls. 500	Tls. 500	Tls. 5,658	Tls. 22,050	4 % for 1897	...	Tls. 250 buyers
MISCELLANEOUS.								
Anglo-German Brewing Company, Limited	4,000	$100	$100	none	$20	None	...	$100
Bell's Asbestos Eastern Agency, Limited	8,604	12/6	12/6	£314	£770	1/3 per share for 1904	9⅓ %	$7
Campbell, Moore & Co., Limited	1,200	$10	$10	$8,000	$1,182	$3 for 1904	6⅔ %	$36
China-Borneo Company, Limited	60,000	$12	$12	none	Nil.	$1 for 1904	10 %	$10 sellers
China Flour Mill Co., Limited	4,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	Tls. 30,000	Tls. 718	Interim of Tls. 5 for 1905	...	Tls. 80 sellers
China Light and Power Company, Limited	50,000	$10	$10	none	$3,739	None	...	$91
China Provident Loan & Mortgage Company, Ld.	100,000	$10	$10	$8,0000	$1,581	80 cents for 1904	8⅓ %	$93
Dairy Farm Company, Limited	25,000	$7½	$6	$25,000	$2,864	$1.20 for year ending 31.7.1905	7½ %	$10 sellers
Green Island Cement Company, Limited	150,000	$10	$10	$400,000 / $500,000	$95,054	$2 for 1904	7½ %	$22 buyers
Hall & Holtz, Limited	21,000	$20	$20	$186,000	$7,551	Final of $1½ making $2½	10 %	$25½ sales
Hongkong Electric Company, Limited	30,000	$10	$10	none	$2,151	$1.00 / 50 cents for year ending 30.4.1905	6⅔ %	$15 buyers / $14½ buyers
	30,000	$10	$10					
Hongkong High-Level Tramways Company, Ld.	1,250	$100	$100	$50,000	$2,796	$15 for year ending 30.11.1904	7 %	$225
Hongkong Ice Company, Limited	5,000	$25	$25	$60,000	$5,356	Interim of $4 for 1905	7 %	$135
Hongkong Rope Manufacturing Company, Ld.	10,000	$50	$50	$60,000	$11,137	$10 for 1904	7 %	$152 buyers
Hongkong Steam Waterboat Company, Limited	15,000	$10	$10	$2,500	$88	Final of 50 cents making $1 for the year	7½ %	$13 sellers
Lane, Crawford & Co., Limited (Shanghai)	2,500	$100	$100	none	$21,582	Interim of $5 for 1904	9⅓ %	$145
Maatschappij tot Mijn-, Bosch- en Landbouwexploitatie in Langkat, Limited	25,000	Gs. 100	Gs. 100	Tls. 528,210 / Tls. 19,465	Tls. 35,849	4th interim of Tls. 7½ paid 15.12.05 making in all Tls. 22½ for 1905	10½ %	Tls. 210
Mondon, (E. L.) Limited	7,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	none	Dr. Tls. 137,638	Tls. 5 for 1902	...	Tls. 25 sellers
Philippine Company, Limited	67,500	$10	$10	none	Dr. P. $53,619	None	...	$5 buyers
Shanghai & Hongkong Dyeing and Cleaning Co., Ld.	11,200	$50	$50	none	Dr. $10,455	None	...	$50
Shanghai Gas Company, Limited	16,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	Tls. 145,000 / Tls. 108,172	Tls. 8,011	Interim of Tls. 3½ for 1905	7 %	Tls. 128 buyers
Shanghai Horse Bazaar Company, Limited	5,400	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	Tls. 45,000	Tls. 9,751	Tls. 6 for 1904	8 %	Tls. 67½
Shanghai Pulp and Paper Company, Limited	4,500	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	Tls. 25,000	Tls. 6,968	Interim of Tls. 6 for 1905	9⅓ %	Tls. 150 sellers
Shanghai-Sumatra Tobacco Company, Limited	30,000	Tls. 20	Tls. 20	Tls. 24,820 / Tls. 25,000	Tls. 1,297	Interim of Tls. 2	14 %	Tls. 64 sellers
Shanghai Waterworks Company, Limited	7,200	£20	£20	Tls. 170,000	Tls. 17,220	Interim of 15/- for 1905	4⅓ %	Tls. 450 buyers
South China Morning Post, Limited	6,000	$25	$25	none	Dr. $5,068	None	...	$20
Steam Laundry Company, Limited	20,000	$ 5	$ 5	none	$1,134	50 cents for year ended 31.3.05	7 %	$7
Straits Ice Company, Limited	2,000	$100	$100	$25,000	$700	$5 for 1905	...	$160 buyers
Tientsin Waterworks Company, Limited	2,000	T.Tls. 100	T.Tls. 100	Tls. 15,295 / Tls. 4,000	Tls. 1,012	Final of Tls. 4 making Tls. 8 for 1904/5	17 %	Tls. 115 sales
United Asbestos Oriental Agency, Limited	9,000	$10	$4	$22,000	$551	80 cents / $19.80 for year ended 31.5.1905	9 % / 11 %	$9 / $180
Do. (Founders')	100	$10	$10					
Watson, (A. S.) & Co., Limited	90,000	$10	$10	$300,000 / $25,000	$6,096	Interim of 50 cents for 1905	8⅓ %	$131
William Powell, Limited	15,000	$10	$10	$4,500	$676	Final of 70 cts. making $1.25 for year ending 31.7.05	12½ %	$10 buyers

Printed and Published by JOSE PEDRO BRAGA, for the Hongkong Telegraph Company, Limited, at the Printing Office of the Company, No. 1, Ice House Road, in the City of Victoria, Hongkong.